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The Fifth Annual Award-winning  
**NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION**  
presents  
**MISSISSIPPI'S LITERARY HERITAGE:  
BLACK AND WHITE  
AND READ ALL OVER**  
**June 2-4, 1994**  
**Natchez, Mississippi**



Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College,  
Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and National Park Service  
Program partially funded by the Mississippi Humanities Council

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# THE SOUTHERN REGISTER



The Newsletter of the Center  
for the Study of Southern Culture  
The University of Mississippi  
Fall 1993



The fifth Natchez Literary Celebration will take place June 2-4, 1994, with the theme "Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over." It will be sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and the National Park Service. Information is available from Natchez Literary Celebration, P.O. Box 894, Natchez, MS 39121; telephone 601-445-0353 or 1-800-862-3259.

## NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION

Feb. 3, 1994  
(CCLin Board Report)

Financial support for the 1994 Natchez Literary Celebration continues to come in, as follows:

1. First Families of Mississippi
2. Civitan Club of Natchez
3. Adams County Board of Supervisors
4. City of Natchez
5. Entergy Corporation
6. Bookfriends of University Press of Mississippi
7. Natchez Historical Society

The Copiah-Lincoln Community College Board of Trustees will meet in Natchez June 4 for the Natchez Literary Celebration.

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For immediate release

from Carolyn Vance Smith, Natchez, Miss. (601) 446-5874

Mississippi's extraordinary, multi-cultural literary legacy will be explored June 2-4, 1994, through a series of lectures, guided tours of related historic sites, music, drama and gala social events during the fifth annual Natchez Literary Celebration.

This award-winning international conference will take place in the historic river city of Natchez, Miss., home of many writers and the inspiration of numerous others.

Using the theme "Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over," the conference is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the National Park Service. The event is financially assisted by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Emphasis will be on books associated with noted African-Americans and Whites, particularly Natchez's own Richard Wright, author of Native Son and Black Boy.

A conference highlight will be a lecture by Wright's daughter, Julia Wright, of Paris, France. She will discuss her father's works and afterward will present the first Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award to Mississippi's internationally acclaimed author, Eudora Welty of Jackson, Miss.

During the conference Welty's works will be discussed, as will those by or about other legendary Mississippi figures, including William Faulkner, Tennessee Williams, Willie Morris, Aaron Burr, Andrew Marschalk and Jefferson Davis.

Again this year, William F. Winter of Jackson, Miss., will serve as director of proceedings. Former governor of Mississippi, Winter is longtime president of the Archives and History board of trustees.

Among 19 internationally known lecturers will be the historians Dr. Robert V. Remini of The University of Illinois, Dr. Grady McWhiney of Texas Christian University, Dr. Douglas Inglis of Seville, Spain, Dr. Julius Eric Thompson of Southern Illinois University; and Dr. Charles Reagan Wilson and Dr. David Sansing of The University of Mississippi.

Also on the program are Willie Morris of Jackson, Miss., author of New York Days; Clifton Taulbert of Tulsa, Okla., author of Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored; Patricia Mitchell of Chatham, Va., author of Soul on Rice; and Dr. Jerry Ward of Tougaloo (Miss.) College, an expert on Richard Wright.

Tickets for the lecture series are \$20, with optional, low-cost meals and tours. Information is available by calling Natchez Box Office at (601) 445-0353 or 1-800-862-3259 or by writing Natchez Literary Celebration, P.O. Box 894, Natchez, MS 39121.



# The Natchez Literary Celebration

Sponsored by  
Copiah-Lincoln Community College,  
Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and  
The National Park Service  
• Natchez National Historical Park  
• Natchez Trace Parkway

Post Office Box 894  
Natchez, MS 39121-0894  
(601) 446-5874  
FAX (601) 446-9967

The 1994 Natchez Literary Celebration will be held Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, June 2-4, 1994, with 19 lectures at the Natchez Municipal (City) Auditorium. Related events will be held elsewhere in Natchez and Adams County.

## TICKETED EVENTS:

1. All three days (June 2-4) of 19 lectures with refreshments, printed materials, and movie cost \$20.
2. One day of lectures (either June 2, 3, or 4), refreshments, printed materials costs \$10. The buyer decides which day he/she wishes to attend and presents the ticket at the door that day.
3. At 6:30 p.m., Thursday, June 2, will be the premiere of a play, Prince of the Slaves, about an African prince who is owned by a Natchez master. Cost is \$10. This will be performed on the back gallery of Melrose. Price includes a reception with performance by the Natchez Gospel Choir and a tour of the mansion. The play was researched and written by National Park Service historians.
4. From 4:15-7:15 p.m., Friday, June 3, will be a plantation tour (with dinner) of the Anthony Hutchins' neighborhood in the Kingston and Second Creek Communities. Featured will be Cherry Grove, Woodstock, and Hillside Plantations, all of which are rarely opened to the public. Wine and cheese will be served at Woodstock and the locally famous and wonderful "dinner-on-the-grounds" with homemade foods will be served by the churchwomen at Kingston Methodist Church. Cost is \$20 per person. Transportation is NOT provided, but a map will be available with tour stops marked.
5. From 2-5 p.m., Saturday, June 4, will be a Literary Landmark Tour with refreshments. Historic houses and sites associated with Richard Wright and other famous writers will be featured, including Mount Repose, Lansdowne, the William Johnson House, Andrew Marshchalk's family home, and Historic Jefferson College. Cost is \$15. Transportation is NOT provided, but a map will be available with tour stops marked.
6. At 9 p.m., Saturday, June 4, following a program called "An Evening with Richard Wright" at the city auditorium, there will be a grand reception inside Stanton Hall, honoring the winner of the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award and all lecturers. Cost is \$10, including food, wine, and music by the Great River Road Revue; cash bar.
7. On Wednesday, June 1, 1994, a pre-Celebration conference will be held at the Armstrong Public Library, 220 S. Commerce. This second all-day workshop will be "More New Colonial Natchez Data from the Spanish Archives in Seville." It will be led by Dr. Douglas Inglis of Seville, who has translated Spanish Natchez data and put it onto computer disks. These disks will be stored at the Armstrong Library. The workshop has a small fee; Librarian Donna Janky wants to register people herself. Please have people write her or call her at (601) 445-8862.
8. On Sunday, June 5, 1994, a post-Celebration conference will be held at The Natchez Eola Hotel, 110 N. Pearl. This second all-day conference will be "The Making of a Writer: A Day with Six Successful Mississippi Writers." It is sponsored by Mississippi Writers Association and will feature talks by poet Mary Brantley, novelist Rob Dalby, medical writer Dr. Ben Douglas, novelist Greg Iles, children's book writer Dr. Nancy Verhoeck-Miller, and non-fiction writer Dr. Jerry Ward. Sessions are free except for lunch, which is \$20 with speaker.

FREE EVENTS: See back page of brochure, under "Free Events." These are open to the general public.

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## NOTES ABOUT THE SPEAKERS AT THE 1994 NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION

### Thursday, June 2, 1994

1. Dr. Charles Reagan Wilson of U. of Miss.; co-editor of The Encyclopedia of Southern Culture, winner of the 1992 Mississippi Library Association award.
2. Dr. G. Douglas Inglis of Seville, Spain; expert on Spanish Natchez; expert on Anthony Hutchins, Natchez settler.
3. Dr. Robert V. Remini of Chicago and U. of Illinois; expert on Andrew Jackson, Henry Clay, and Aaron Burr; winner of dozens of national and international awards; extremely popular returning NLC lecturer.
4. Dr. Ronald L. F. Davis, California State U.; author of The Black Experience in Natchez, 1720-1880; affiliated with research on Natchez authorized by the National Park Service.

### Friday, June 3, 1994

1. Dr. Grady McWhiney, Texas Christian U.; author, biographies of Jefferson Davis; winner of many awards.
2. Dr. Robert C. Petersen and Dr. Jacquelyn Jackson, Middle Tennessee State U.; experts on Southern literature, especially Stark Young and his historical novels set in the South.
3. Dr. David Sansing, U. of Miss.; author of several histories of Mississippi and history of Natchez.
4. Dr. Julius Eric Thompson, Southern Ill. U.; author of The Black Press in Mississippi, 1865-1985.
5. Mr. Willie Morris, Jackson, Miss.; author of New York Days, Good Old Boy, many other novels.
6. Mrs. Patricia B. Mitchell, Chatham, Va.; author of 150 books on foods and culture, including Soul on Rice; very popular with National Park Service bookstores.
7. Dr. Elizabeth MacNeil Bogges, Natchez; descendant of early Natchez settlers who lived in the Kingston and Second Creek communities; her mother owns Cherry Grove, a tour stop.
8. Dr. Charles Vahlkamp, Centre College, Danville, Ky.; expert on American film studies; husband of Natchez native Sarah McLaurin.
9. Dr. Jerry Ward, Tougaloo (Miss.) College; English professor, expert on Richard Wright.

### Saturday, June 4, 1994

1. Dr. W. Kenneth Holditch, U. of New Orleans; founder of Tennessee Williams Festival in New Orleans.
2. Dr. Peggy W. Preshaw, LSU; English professor and expert on Eudora Welty and Elizabeth Spencer.
3. Mr. Clifton Taulbert, Tulsa, Okla.; a Miss. native who is author of Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored and Last Train North, which won Miss. Library Asso. award.
4. Mr. Madison Davis Lacy, Jr., New York City; highly acclaimed TV producer who researched the life of Richard Wright for his latest work, a Miss. ETV documentary about Wright called "Black Boy." Excerpts of the the documentary will be shown.
5. Ms. Julia Wright, Paris, France; daughter of Richard Wright and author of new biography of her father, to be published by Random House in 1994.

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Historic

*Natchez*  
on the Mississippi

*Tourism*

*Highlights*

P.O. Box 1485 • Natchez, MS 39121 *Oct. 1993*

## Black and White and Read All Over

The fifth annual Natchez Literary Celebration will take place June 2-4, 1994, using the theme Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over.

Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and the National Park Service, the award-winning conference will once again

explore the literature, history, and culture of the Lower Mississippi River Valley through lectures and related events.

Particular emphasis in 1994 will be on noted regional African-Americans and Whites, particularly Natchez's own Richard Wright and such Mississippi legendary figures as William Faulkner, Eudora Welty, Tennessee Williams, Aaron Burr, and Jefferson Davis.

For the fifth time, The Honorable William F.

Winter of Jackson, Mississippi, will serve as director of proceedings for the Celebration. Former governor of Mississippi, Winter is longtime president of the board of trustees of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

Among a dozen internationally known lecturers will be Dr.

Robert V. Remini of The University of Illinois, whose

topic will be "Aaron Burr and the great Mississippi Conspiracy."

Also on tap will be a tour of Natchez structures associated with writers, a play about an African prince who was a slave in 18th-century Natchez, and a book-and-food extravaganza.

Information is available by calling **Natchez Box Office** at **601-445-0353** or **1-800-862-3259** or by writing **Natchez Literary Celebration, P. O. Box 894, Natchez, MS 39121.**

# STATE/METRO

THE CLARION-LEDGER ■ JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI



**DANNY  
McKENZIE**

Columnist  
The Clarion-Ledger

•MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1993

## Start planning for Natchez

And when it comes to celebrations, nobody does it better than the good folks of Copiah-Lincoln Community College when they co-sponsor the Natchez Literary Celebration.

The fourth annual festival has been scheduled for June 2-4. The theme for this year's literary celebration is "Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over."

Co-Lin will join with the state Department of Archives and History and the National Park Service in featuring works by and discussions on a rather eclectic group of Mississippi legends including Richard Wright, William Faulkner, Eudora Welty, Tennessee Williams, Aaron Burr and Jefferson Davis.

The numbers to call in Natchez are 445-0353 or 1-800-862-3259. This is one you need to plan for well ahead of time.

Danny McKenzie's column appears Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

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# Literary event snares top humanities grant

By MIKE WILLEY

The Natchez Democrat

The largest grant given in Mississippi this year by the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council has been awarded to the 1994 Natchez Literary Celebration.



Norman

"\$23,965 is the amount of the grant," said Cora Norman, executive director

of the Mississippi Humanities Council. "It is the largest grant given thus far out of our current grant monies."

Norman, who was in Natchez Thursday for a regular meeting of the Humanities Council, said that her group has had a budget of about \$450,000 per year for the last few years. "We're federally funded, so the amount varies from year to year," she said.

"Our focus this year is on community values and needs," said Norman. "We've been working with community colleges, and Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community

See GRANT, Page 3A

## Grant

Continued from Page 1A

College has done an especially good job of involving the entire community, which is what the council is trying to do."

The grant has a requirement of matching cash gifts of \$18,965. The total amount, which could amount to \$34,475, will be used to help pay lecturers' fees, and travel expenses, promotion, and printed materials, said Smith, of Co-Lin's Natchez campus.

"The 1994 conference will take place June 2-4, using the theme, 'Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over,' said Smith.

Norman is particularly happy that a regional meeting of humanities councils will be attending the literary celebration in Natchez. "On June 4, members attending the Southern Humanities Regional Conference in Jackson will be bussed to Natchez so they can attend the evening session," said Norman. "We'll be hosting officials from the National Endowment for the Humanities, and this year we're particularly interested on the Richard Wright focus in the Natchez

Literary Celebration."

"The new president of the National Endowment for the Humanities, Sheldon Hackney, wants a national conversation on American values," said Norman. "Next year's focus in the humanities councils will be on communities and race relations, so we're delighted that the members of the councils plan to take advantage of this year's Natchez Literary Celebration."

"The program is so well organized by Carolyn Vance Smith," said Norman. "The Natchez Literary Celebration is one of the best prototypes of a public humanities program that we've found in Mississippi. Community people come and benefit from it, and professors clamor for an opportunity to participate. It's one of our most informative and entertaining programs."

Of the 22 members of the Mississippi Humanities Council, about 15 are attending the current meeting in Natchez, according to Norman.

Norman, who has been the only executive director the council has had since its formation in 1972, feels that her group has been one of the most stable councils in the coun-

try. "I'm the grandmother of the National Humanities Councils," she said with a laugh.

Norman introduced Will Sullivan, editor of the "Picayune Item" and a new member of the Mississippi Humanities Council. "Natchez can claim its first member of the council," she said of Sullivan, who graduated from Natchez High School in 1963.

"Natchez has such a charm about it," Norman said. "It has retained its rich history. Natchez in 1994 seems to have retained the best of the myth of the Old South, but it has a conscious awareness of what it means to lead us into the 21st century."

Natchez Democrat

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FROM CAROLYN VANCE SMITH, CO-LIN NATCHEZ, 446-5874

**NLC RECEIVES LARGEST GRANT FROM MHC THIS YEAR**

The largest grant given in Mississippi this year by the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council has been awarded to the 1994 Natchez Literary Celebration.

This annual event is co-sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the National Park Service.

"This grant is the largest given this year and one of the largest ever given," said Dr. Cora Norman of Jackson, executive director of the Humanities Council.

The grant, for \$23,965, has a requirement of matching cash gifts of \$18,965, Norman said. "For every dollar which is matched, the National Endowment will increase that part of the grant by 50 percent," she said. In all, the grant could amount to \$34,475.

The money will be used to help pay lecturers' fees and travel expenses, promotion, printed materials and related expenses of the award-winning annual June conference, said Carolyn Vance Smith of Co-Lin.

Smith is co-chairman of the event with James Barnett of Archives and History in Natchez and Gerald Gaumer of the Natchez National Historical Park.

The Celebration in 1991 won the Mississippi Governor's Award for Tourism Achievement and has been officially cited by the Mississippi Historical Society, the National Council of Teachers of English and other groups.

"The 1994 conference will take place June 2-4, using the theme, 'Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over,' " Smith said. Internationally known writers and scholars will present 19 sessions on Mississippi's multi-cultural history and literature.

Topics to be covered include Aaron Burr, Anthony Hutchins, Jefferson Davis, William Faulkner, Richard Wright, Tennessee Williams, Eudora Welty, Stark Young, Mississippi's African-American heritage and the influence of newspapers and foods on Mississippi's culture.

Speakers are Julia Wright of Paris, daughter of Natchez's own Richard Wright; Dr. G. Douglas

more

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Inglis of Seville, Spain; Dr. Robert V. Remini of the University of Illinois; Dr. Grady McWhiney of Texas Christian University; Willie Morris of Jackson; Clifton Taulbert of Tulsa, Okla.; Dr. W. Kenneth Holditch of The University of New Orleans; and Dr. Ronald L. F. Davis of California State University.

Also speaking will be Dr. Charles Reagan Wilson and Dr. David Sansing, The University of Mississippi; Dr. Robert C. Petersen and Dr. Jacquelyn Jackson, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro; Dr. Julius Eric Thompson, Southern Illinois University; Patricia B. Mitchell, Chatham, Va.; Dr. Elizabeth Boggess, Natchez; Dr. Charles G. Vahlkamp, Centre College, Danville, Ky.; Dr. Jerry Ward, Tougaloo College; Dr. Peggy W. Prenshaw, Louisiana State University; and Madison Davis Lacy Jr., New York City.

Because of the great success of the Literary Celebration, the Mississippi Humanities Council has been an annual financial supporter since the first conference in 1990, Norman said. "Past evaluations of the programs have praised the quality as well as the diverse and large audiences," she said.

"The Literary Celebration is unique in interpreting the humanities to a degree rarely attained in public humanities programs," Norman said. "It is also unique in that scholars in the humanities as well as lay citizens seem to benefit equally.

"The Humanities Council is in the business of promoting programs to examine our intellectual heritage and talking about the formative influences that have shaped institutions, traditions and the way we view life today," she said.

"The Natchez Literary Celebration is a prototype for such an examination."

Norman plans to attend the Celebration again this year, bringing with her about 80 Southern Regional Humanities Council members and administrators.



Volume II, No. 3

# Cover Pages

(Natchez, Miss., BOOK SHOP NEWSletter)

Spring 1994

## Black & White & Read All Over

Such is the theme of the 1994 Natchez Literary Celebration, highlighting Mississippi's Literary Heritage, June 1-4. Mark your calendar for the events and entertainment that CAROLYN VANCE SMITH and so many others have worked hard to produce. The week concludes on Sunday, June 5, with a one day writer's conference featuring local authors GREG ILES and ROB (KUEHNLE) DALBY.

8<sup>TH</sup> THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT, Natchez, Miss.

## Year-round calendar of events

March 1994

■ JUNE will kick off another Natchez Literary Celebration. The 1994 celebration will take a look at greats in Southern literature and provide lighter entertainment and tours of some of the area's historic sites. The theme is "Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over." Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the National Park Service.

Information about tickets is available at Natchez Box Office, 1-800-862-3259, or locally, 445-0353. Information is available by writing to P.O. Box 1264, Natchez, Miss. 39121-1264.

■ Mid June will find Victoriana enthusiasts having a wonderful time touring some of the fine late 19th-century mansions in Natchez. More information at Natchez Pilgrimage Tours.

■ June is steamboat time in Natchez, too, with the annual Steamboat Jubilee and Floozie Parade taking place when the Mississippi Queen and Delta Queen steamboats stop in the Miss-Lou during their annual race from New Orleans to St. Louis.

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# ◆ Chamber News ◆

Volume 1

Natchez-Adams County Chamber of Commerce

March, 1994

## 1994 Natchez Literary Celebration

The Natchez Literary Celebration is pleased to announce plans for their fifth annual conference entitled "Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over." This award-winning event is co-sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, The Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and the National Park Service.

The dates for this event are June 1-5, 1994, and will start with a pre-conference workshop conducted by Dr. G. Douglas Inglis from the University of Seville, Seville, Spain. This second annual workshop on computer access to early Natchez records will introduce newly acquired Spanish Natchez information previously available only in the Archivo General de Indias in Seville.

The next three days of the conference will concentrate on exploring the extraordinary multi-cultural literary legacy of Mississippi. Internationally known lecturers, such as Dr. Robert V. Remini, Mr. Willie Morris, and Mr. Clifton Taulbert, will discuss topics emphasizing regional African-Americans and whites throughout the past two centuries. Natchez' own Richard Wright will be showcased along with other figures who have contributed to Mississippi's rich heritage. Notables such as William Faulkner, Eudora Welty,

Tennessee Williams, Aaron Burr, Andrew Marschalk, Joseph Holt Ingraham, and Jefferson Davis will also be spotlighted.

Special events will include the Mississippi premiere of a new and exciting one-act play, "Prince of the Slaves: The Story of a Royal Slave and His Master," and a highly researched literary landmark tour of numerous Natchez-area sites associated with books and authors. Other events will include a tour of historic homes in the Kingston area; a showing of the film, *Native Son*; a reception honoring the winner of the first Richard Wright Literary Award and presented by Mr. Wright's daughter, Miss Julia Wright of Paris, France; and much more.

The final day of the celebration will feature a post-conference writing workshop sponsored by the Mississippi Writers Association.

All four previous conferences have received extremely high compliments, and there is every indication that the 1994 celebration will generate even more interest and economic opportunities for the Natchez area. For more information, call or write The Natchez Box Office, (601) 445-0353, 1-800-862-3259, or P.O. Box 1264, Natchez, MS 39121.

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# *Tourism Highlights*

Issue 94-4

Natchez Convention & Visitors Bureau

April 1994

Register now for the 5th Annual Award-winning Natchez Literary Celebration -- Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over. June 2 - 4, 1994. Fee for lectures only \$20. Total fee for lectures, tours, meals, and parties: \$75. For more information and registration form please call or write: NATCHEZ BOX OFFICE, 445-0353; 1-800-862-3259; P O Box 1264, Natchez 39121-1264.

Mississippi  
Writers'  
Association

JOURNAL  
CLIPPINGS

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Norrie Wynne

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## Natchez Literary Celebration

June 2 - 5, 1994

### The Mississippi Writers' Association's 7th Annual conference will be in Natchez on Sunday June 5.

Don't be disappointed this year! Get your reservations in early! We have a tremendous line up of speakers for you and the charge is only \$20.00 for the entire day. (This includes lunch and all speakers on Sunday.)

Two of the speakers, Dr. Jerry Ward and Mary Brantley will be funded by the Humanities Council and will be free to the public. Please send in your reservation slip now as seating is limited. Remember that we are a non-profit organization. Our plan is to have the newest, best-selling authors this year. Next month we should have the Natchez schedule for you (June 2 - 5). It will be superb as usual. Now for the MS Writers Association line-up:

**How To Make Six Figures On Your First Novel** Author Greg Isles will tell us this and more in his after-dinner talk about his novel, "Spandau Phoenix" and soon to be released "Black Cross". Greg Isles is a Natchez Author who just completed an impressive tour to promote his "Spandau Phoenix" in paperback. It was the Signet lead title for April with an impressive 500,000 copies being printed. He met with book buyers, general managers, marketing directors, and wholesalers who buy the books.

**Publishing Opportunities for Aspiring Writers**, By Rob Dalby, (Author of, "God of the Door", Palmetto Lodge Press. Dalby, whose real name is Rob Kuchnie, is a native of Natchez, MS, and has worked as a bookseller, manuscript scout, freelance writer, sportswriter and radio-TV announcer. His new book has been nominated by the MS Library Association, The LA Library Association and the Southeastern Library Association for their 1994 Fiction Award. Thorndike bought the large print rights for his novel last summer, and their edition has just been released. The book has also been on Waldenbook's Best Selling List.

**A Viable Alternative To the New York Publishing Scene**, By Dr. Ben Douglas, Author of "Reset Your Appetat" and "Ageless", he has just released his first children's book, "What Are Little Girls For?". Dr. Douglas has recently signed a contract with Southern Publisher's to market his next children's book titles. Southern Publishers is basically a consortium of independent publishers. Some of them are self-published. Others are looking for manuscripts from other writers. One of their self-publishers is now number one on the NY Times best selling list.

**Writing and Publishing Children's Books**, Nancy Verhoek-Miller. Her publications include short stories, research papers, and articles on reading and children's literature. Prior to joining the Ms State University faculty, she taught in public schools and continues to work closely with schools through booktalk presentations. Nancy is an authority on all types and phases of children's books and has that rare ability of making the listener want to go home and start writing.

**Adam David Miller** - Author, poet, playwright, television producer, editor and publisher from Berkeley California will introduce his new book of award-winning poetry.

### Mississippi Humanities Council Speakers...

(These will be afternoon speakers, free and open to public.)

Mary Brantley, the literary genius of John Grisham  
Jerry W. Ward, Jr., The Legacy of Richard Wright.

### Invited speakers are...

**James Redfield**, The Celestine Prophecy. His book is number one on the New York times Best Sellers List - He was originally self-published through Southern Publishers. Hardly on the market, his book was purchased by Time-Warner.

**How To Get Your Book Published**, Jeff Herman, Fiction and non-Fiction authors can learn the ropes of the Literary world from a knowledgeable NY Literary Agent who climbs them daily. He's also author of "Insider's Guide to Authors" and "Write the Perfect Non-Fiction Book Proposal".

Make plans NOW to attend this very special 1994 event!!!

### Send In Your Reservations, MWA Writers Conference (Sunday Only)

When: June 5, 1994, 9:00am to 5:00pm

Where: Eola Hotel, Natchez

Title of Program: The Making Of A Writer

Cost: \$20 (Includes lunch and all speakers)

You will be responsible for making your hotel reservations or take the beautiful 2 hour drive down the Trace to Natchez on Sunday morning. For additional info, call Jo Barksdale at 352-6864. Mail your \$20 conference fee to the MWA P.O. Box on the back page.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

"A Non-Profit Organization To Nurture & Develop Writers"

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# Historic

# Natchez

## on the Mississippi



### ♥ ♥ ♥ Calendar of Events ♥ ♥ ♥

#### February

##### **Mardi Gras in Natchez**

A parade and Grand Ball are some of the exciting events in which you can participate to help bring the spirit of Mardi Gras alive!

#### March

##### **Natchez Spring Pilgrimage**

A host of our most beautiful antebellum homes open their doors and gardens to you. Nightly entertainment makes this event particularly exciting for all!



#### May

##### **T. C. Jordan Professional Golf Tournament**

An annual event for those who like to watch some of the nation's best golfers compete.

#### June

##### **The Natchez Literary Celebration**

A yearly event focusing on the literature and history of the area.

## Heritage Herald

May 1994

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### Natchez to celebrate literary heritage

The fifth annual, award-winning Natchez Literary Celebration will take place June 2 through 4, 1994, under the motto "Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over."

This year's event is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and the National Park Service. The Mississippi Heritage Trust will support the event by serving as refreshment host at historic Jefferson College on June 4, in the afternoon. The tour stop will be part of the afternoon program taking place from 2 to 5 p.m. under the title "Literary Landmark Tour." The tour visits sites associated with books and authors in the area and requires purchase of a \$15 ticket.

# ELDERHOSTEL

## *United States and Canada Catalog*

Spring 1994 Programs: Apr, May, Jun

December 1993 No. 6

### MISSISSIPPI

#### **COPIAH LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE/NATCHEZ**

Natchez, the oldest settlement on the Lower Mississippi River and the site of an unusually large collection of beautiful and historically significant mansions and other buildings, is also home to Copiah-Lincoln Community College, a two-year public commuter college. You'll immerse yourself in the city's history when you enter the program's riverfront residential site, a brand-new hotel in downtown Natchez. All rooms have private bath. Some classes involve walking.

Program Charge \$325 B.P.T.S

— May 31 - Jun 5 # 24150 - 0531 - 1 —

Begins on Tuesday, Ends on Sunday

**Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black And White And Read All Over**  
Share in the award-winning Natches Literary Celebration, a spectacular three-day humanities conference which will explore the world-renowned literary contributions of such Mississippi giants as William Faulkner, Richard Wright, Eudora Welty, Willie Morris. Lectures by internationally known scholars and writers; a sneak preview of a Richard Wright television documentary; tours of famous mansions; storytelling by a famous personality; lavish social events. Equivalent of two courses.

**Historic Natchez: A Place Of Enchantment**  
Fall under the magic spell of Natchez as experts weave its history of great wealth, sophistication, and power into an unforgettable tapestry. Marvel at National Historic Landmark properties, including fabulous mansions.

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## THE 1994 Natchez Elderhappening

June 1-5, 1994

During the 1994 Natchez Elderhappening, you'll participate in an award-winning international conference sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and the National Park Service.

The theme, "Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over," celebrates Mississippi's extraordinary multi-cultural literary heritage.

### LECTURES

- \* Julia Wright of Paris, France, daughter of Natchez's own award-winning novelist **Richard Wright**, discussing her father
- \* **Willie Morris** of Jackson, Miss., author of *New York Days* and numerous other books, discussing his grandfather, an early Mississippi newspaper editor
- \* **Dr. Robert V. Remini**, University of Illinois, world-renowned expert on **Andrew Jackson** and **Aaron Burr**, discussing Burr's Mississippi connection
- \* **Dr. Grady McWhiney**, Texas Christian University, discussing **Jefferson Davis**
- \* **Clifton Taulbert**, Tulsa, Okla., author of *Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored*, discussing Mississippi's literary heritage and future
- \* **Dr. Charles Reagan Wilson** and **Dr. David Sansing**, historians of The University of Mississippi, discussing 19th-century Mississippi
- \* **Dr. Douglas Ingles** of Seville, Spain, discussing early Natchez history
- \* **Dr. Robert C. Petersen** and **Dr. Jacquelyn Jackson**, Middle Tennessee State University, discussing the author **Stark Young**
- \* **Dr. Ronald L. F. Davis**, California State University, and **Dr. Julius Eric Thompson**, Southern Illinois University, experts on **black history**
- \* **Dr. Kenneth Holditch**, University of New Orleans, discussing the writings of **William Faulkner** and **Tennessee Williams**
- \* **Dr. Peggy W. Prensshaw**, Louisiana State University, an expert on **Eudora Welty**

### RELATED CELEBRATION EVENTS

- \* **Guided tours** of historic mansions and other sites
- \* **Premiere** of *Prince of the Slaves*, a play about an African prince sold into slavery
- \* **The movie**, *Native Son*, starring Oprah Winfrey and Matt Dillon, based on Richard Wright's novel, with comments by **Dr. Charles G. Yahkump**, Centre College, Danville, Ky., and **Dr. Jerry Ward**, Tougaloo (Miss.) College
- \* **Excerpts** from the 1994 Miss. ETV documentary about Richard Wright, *Black Boy*, with comments by producer **Madison Davis Lacy Jr.** of New York
- \* **First Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award** to **Eudora Welty**
- \* **Gala reception** honoring the sponsors at palatial Stanton Hall

## NATCHEZ ELDERHAPPENING REGISTRATION INFORMATION

June 1-5, 1994

You'll join a large group of Elderhostellers for this event.

**HOUSING:** You'll stay four nights (June 1, 2, 3, and 4) at The Best Western River Park Hotel - Natchez's newest, finest hotel overlooking the Mississippi River.

**MEALS:** You'll enjoy 11 meals, from dinner the evening of June 1 through breakfast June 5. These will be at various Natchez sites, including Natchez Under-the-Hill, The Carriage House Restaurant at Stanton Hall, and The Natchezicola Hotel.

**NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION:** You'll participate all three days (June 2-4) in a special conference called "Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over." You'll attend lectures by internationally known authors and scholars, a play, a movie, a gala reception at Stanton Hall, and you'll visit famous mansions and other sites.

**FEES:** Total cost per person for the above: \$250. We require a \$50 deposit per person. The balance of the fee (plus \$75 for a single room supplement) will be collected June 1 at registration from 4-5 p.m. at The Best Western River Park Hotel, 645 South Canal Street, Natchez, Mississippi. If you must cancel, you'll be refunded half the deposit.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Call Copiah-Lincoln's Elderhostel office at (601) 446-6874. For hotel accommodations before or after the Elderhappening, call River Park Hotel, 1-800-374-6632, and identify yourself as an Elderhostel participant.

(Please clip and mail this form by May 30, 1994.)

### 1994 ELDERHAPPENING REGISTRATION FORM

Please send this completed form with check to:  
Elderhostel, Copiah-Lincoln Community College,  
823 U.S. Hwy 61 North, Natchez, MS 39120

Information on this form will be used to make housing assignments. If you are traveling with a spouse or other companion, please use this form to register **both parties**.

Person #1

Person #2

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street or post office box \_\_\_\_\_

Street or post office box \_\_\_\_\_

City, state, zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City, state, zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Deposit: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$50 each = \_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed

1994 part 1  
page 16

## Conference to spotlight Mississippi intrigue, rumors, rights

Intrigue... romance... civil rights... human rights...

All are a part of the 200 years of Mississippi's history, literature and culture to be highlighted during the 1994 Natchez Literary Celebration June 2-4, said NLC co-chairman Jim Barnett of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

The fifth annual award-winning conference will use the theme, "Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over," Barnett said. "That will take us from Andrew Hutchins, Aaron Burr and Prince Ibrahim in the 18th century all the way to Richard Wright, Tennessee Williams, Eudora Welty and Willie Morris in the 20th century."

Speakers and their topics include:

- Julia Wright of Paris, France, daughter of Natchez's own Richard Wright and author of a new biography of her father to be published by Random House: "Black Boy's Children."

- Dr. G. Douglas Inglis of Seville, Spain, an expert on early Natchez: "Squeaky Tony, Leng and Bony: Anthony Hutchins, the Inscrutable Tour of



WINTER

18th-century Natchez."

- Dr. Robert V. Remini of the University of Illinois, who is a world-renowned expert on Andrew Jackson, Henry Clay and other people of the time, including Aaron Burr: "Aaron Burr and His Legendary Mississippi Connection."

- Dr. Grady McWhiney of Texas Christian University, the world's authority on Jefferson Davis: "A Mississippi Defends a Nation: Jefferson Davis as Confederate President, 1862."

- Willie Morris of Jackson, author of *New York Days* and numerous other books and a Mississippi history authority: "My Great-grandfather: A 19th-century Mississippi Editor."

- Clifton Taulbert of the Mississippi Delta and Tulsa, Okla., author of *Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored and Last Train North*: "Mississippi Literature as



WARD

Anthropologist and Futurist."

- Dr. W. Kenneth Holmich of the University of New Orleans, founder of the Tennessee Williams Festival: "A Dark, Wide World That You Can Breathe In: William Faulkner, Tennessee Williams, and the Old South."

- Dr. Ronald L.F. Davis of California State University, an expert on Natchez's Afro-American history: "The Black Experience in Natchez, 1720-1880."

- Dr. Charles Reagan Wilson of the University of Mississippi, co-editor of *The Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*: "Two Centuries of Creativity in Mississippi: Black and White and Read All Over."

- Dr. David Sansing, also of Ole Miss, author of numerous Mississippi history textbooks and *Natchez: An Illustrated History*: "Two Centuries of



REMINI

Newspapers in Mississippi."

- Dr. Robert C. Petersen and Dr. Jacquelyn Jackson, both of Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, who are experts on Stark Young: "War, Race, and Social Change: Two Perspectives on the Fiction of Stark Young."

- Dr. Julius Eric Thompson of Southern Illinois University, authority on Afro-American newspapers: "The Black Press in Mississippi, 1855-1985."

- Patricia B. Mitchell, Chatham, Va., author of more than 100 books on ethnic foods and culture, including *Soul on Rice*: "Good Food, Good Folks, and Good Times: The Role of Southern Foods in Southern Culture."

- Dr. Elizabeth Boggess of Natchez, descendant of and expert on 18th-century Natchez settlers: "Kingsdon and Second Creek: Country Communities."

- Dr. Charles G. Vahlkamp of Centre College, Danville, Ky., an authority on American film studies: "An Overview of Two Film Versions of the Famous Novel, *Native Son*."

- Dr. Jerry Ward of Tougaloo (Miss.) College, a Richard Wright expert: "Cinematic Irenas: *Native Son* as Literature and Film."

- Dr. Peggy W. Freshow of Louisiana State University, one of the world's leading Eudora Welty scholars: "Everybody to Their Own Visioning: Eudora Welty and the State of Letters."

- Madison Davis Lacy Jr., New York City, producer of Mississippi Educational Television's upcoming documentary about Richard Wright, called *Black Boy*: "The Making of *Black Boy*." Excerpts from the documentary will be shown.

Again this year, William Winter, former governor of Mississippi and longtime president of the MDAH board of trustees, will serve as Celebration director of proceedings.

## Literary tour to be June 4

A highly researched "Natchez Literary Landmark Tour" will be a special part of the 1994 Natchez Literary Celebration, said Carolyn Vance Smith of Co-Lin and NLC co-chairman.

Joan McLemore, librarian at Co-Lin, has spent hours researching the connections of certain houses and sites to authors and books, Smith said. "The Literary Landmark Tour is the result of her hard work."

The tour, set for June 4 from 2-6 p.m., costs \$15. Tickets are available at Natchez Box Office. The tour will include the following stops:

- The William Johnson House, 212 State St., former home of the free black William Johnson, and now part of the Natchez National Historical Park. Johnson is the subject of a biography, *The Barber of Natchez*, by author and of a multi-volume diary.

- Andrew Marshall Family Home, 211 N. Pearl St., an early 19th-century home built by the father of Mississippi journalism, who was the state's first printer. It is now the home of Helen Spencer.

- Landowee, the plantation home of the Marshall family on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, subject of numerous books on Natchez architecture and furniture and home of the late Margaret Marshall MacClary, author of *Six Little Girls of Landowee*. This chil-

dran's book, published in the 1960s, is being reprinted by the little girls, MacClary's granddaughters, and will be available for sale during the tour.

- Mount Royal, the plantation home of Mayor and Mrs. Larry "Bunch" Brown, on M.L. King Jr. Drive and also the subject of numerous books about Natchez. In addition the house contains an extensive rare book collection and was once home to the author Elizabeth Bland, subject of three forthcoming biographies.

- Historic Jefferson College at Washington, dating to 1802. This site, operated by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, was where numerous authors taught, including Joseph Holt Ingraham, who wrote *The South-West*, by a Yankee. Ingraham and his son, Prentiss, wrote more than 700 novels and novelettes.

At Jefferson College, refreshments will be served and concerts will be presented at 3 p.m. and at 3:30 p.m. by the Natchez Community Band.

Though not open for tour stops, two other sites will be "ride-by's." They are Foster Meunier, often visited by the slave Ibrahim, subject of *Prince Among Slaves*; and the neighborhood of Richard Wright's grandparents on Woodlawn Street.

## Play to premiere

The world premiere of *Prince of the Slaves*, a one-act play by living history experts William Gwaltney and Richard Pawling of the National Park Service, will take place in Natchez June 2 at 6:30 p.m. at historic Melrose.

The play is based on the lives of Ibrahim, an African prince who became a slave in 18th-century Natchez, and his master, Thomas Foster. Tickets, available at Natchez Box Office, are \$10 and include tours of Melrose and refreshments.

Accident or murder? *Native Son*

Was it an accident or was it a murder?

That is the question in the classic novel by Richard Wright, *Native Son*, to be presented in movie version five of June 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the Natchez Municipal Auditorium. The evening is made possible by the Natchez Co-Ed Company.

Bigger Thomas, a black chauffeur for a wealthy family in the 1940s, is a monster of inner pain a pillow over a girl's face—suffering her forever, said Jim Barnett, NLC co-chairman.

The rest of the movie deals with a feverish manhunt for Thomas, his trial and the fears and prejudices of the 1940s, Barnett said.

"This is a shattering drama that everyone should see," he said. "And it's based on a novel by a man born Natchez."

The film stars Cyndi Windy, Matt Dillon, Geraldine Page, Carolee Baker and other award-winning movie greats, Barnett said.

The evening also includes:

- Researched by two scholars, Dr. Charles Vahlkamp of Centre College in Kentucky and Dr. Jerry Ward of Tougaloo College in Mississippi.

- Door prizes, including a VCR, Walkman, tapes and copies of the novel.

- Free Coca-Cola and popcorn.

## Welty to win Wright award

The internationally acclaimed Mississippi author Eudora Welty will be presented the first Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award on June 4 at the grand finale of the 1994 Natchez Literary Celebration.

The ceremony will be part of an Evening with Richard Wright, which begins at 7 p.m. at the Natchez Municipal Auditorium. The program is free and open to the public.

"This new award honors another internationally famous Mississippi author, Richard Wright," said Gerald Ganner of the Natchez National Historical Park and NLC co-chairman.

The award will be presented



WELTY



J. WRIGHT



R. WRIGHT

by Julia Wright of Paris, France, author's daughter. Earlier in the evening she will present remarks about her father and his work, and Madison Davis Lacy Jr. of New York City will present remarks about the making of a new Mississippi Educational Television documentary about the author, "Gauguin."

Richard Wright, prize-winning author of *Native Son*, *Black Boy*

and numerous other books, was born in Adams County in 1902. He died in 1960 in Paris, France.

Welty, 85, is winner of the Pulitzer Prize and doctress of other honors for such works as *The Optimist's Daughter*, *A Curtain of Green* and *Other Stories* and *The Robber Bridegroom*. Suffering from arthritis but otherwise in good health, she lives in Jackson and plans, health permitting, to attend the Literary Celebration to receive her award, Ganner said.

Following the program, a gala reception at historic Stanton Hall will honor Welty, Wright and other presenters. Tickets are \$10 from Natchez Box Office.

Dr. Peggy W. Prensshaw, professor of English at L.S.U. is scheduled to speak on "Eudora Welty's Fiction" on Saturday, June 4.

JUNE 2 - 4

## 1994 NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION

The Natchez Literary Celebration is pleased to announce plans for the fifth annual conference entitled "Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over." This award-winning event is co-sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and the National Park Service.



The event will begin with a pre-conference workshop June 1, conducted by Dr. G. Douglas Inglis of Seville, Spain. This workshop on computer access to early Natchez records will introduce newly acquired Spanish Natchez information previously available only in the Archivo General de Indias in Seville.

The next three days of the conference will concentrate on exploring the extraordinary multi-cultural literary legacy of Mississippi. Internationally known lecturers, such as Dr. Robert V. Remini of the University of Illinois, Mississippi authors Willie Morris and Clifton Taulbert, and Dr. Grady McWhiney of Texas Christian University, will discuss topics emphasizing regional African-Americans and whites for the past two centuries.

Natchez's own author, Richard Wright, 1908 - 1960, will be showcased along with other figures who contributed to Mississippi's rich heritage. The author's daughter, Julia Wright of Paris, France, will discuss her father and his works and will present the first Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award to the internationally acclaimed author Eudora Welty.

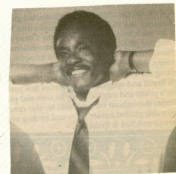
Other Mississippi notables, such as William Faulkner, Tennessee Williams, Aaron Burr, Andrew Marschalk, and Jefferson Davis will also be spotlighted.

Special events enhancing the lecture series will include the Mississippi premiere of a new one-act play, "Prince of the Slaves: The Story of a Royal Slave and His Master," and a highly researched "Literary Landmark Tour" of numerous Natchez-area sites associated with books and authors. Other events include a tour of historic plantation homes in the Kingstons area which are rarely opened to the public; a showing of the film *Native Son*; a gala reception at palatial Stanton Hall; garden parties and concerts.

The final day of the celebration, June 5, will feature a post-conference writing workshop sponsored by the Mississippi Writers Association. The event, called "A Day with Six Successful Mississippi Authors," will feature Greg Iles of Natchez.

The conference routinely receives accolades, and this year is no exception. The largest grant given in Mississippi in 1994 by the National Endowment for the Humanities has been awarded to the conference.

Below: Clifton L. Taulbert, author of *The Last Train North and Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored*, is scheduled to speak on "Mississippi Literature" on Saturday, June 4. Taulbert is a Mississippi native. He is considered one of the top 10 writers of non-fiction in America today.



St. Francisville, La.

# Country Roads

ADVENTURES CLOSE TO HOME

May, 1994

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page 18

# TODAY

IN MISSISSIPPI

May 1994



The Fifth Annual Award-winning  
**NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION**  
Natchez, Mississippi

Presents  
**MISSISSIPPI'S LITERARY  
HERITAGE:  
BLACK AND WHITE  
AND READ ALL OVER**

June 2-4, 1994

Featuring:

- Lectures by internationally known scholars and writers on Mississippi's history, literature, people, and events
- Related field trips and tours of historic houses
- Premiere of a play about Prince Beahm, an African slave in Natchez
- Excerpts from Mississippi ETV documentary about Natchez author Richard Wright
- Showing and discussion of a film version of Richard Wright's *Native Son*
- Workshops, exhibits, and autograph party
- Presentation of the first Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award to Rudora Wiley
- Gala receptions, garden parties, and meals

\*\*\*

Fee for lectures only \$20  
Total fee for lectures, tours,  
meals, and parties: \$75

FOR INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION FORM,  
PLEASE CALL OR WRITE:

**Natchez Box Office**

(601) 443-4333  
1-800-842-3239

P.O. BOX 1204  
Natchez, MS 39123-1204

Sponsored by  
Capital-Lincoln Community College  
Mississippi Department  
of Archives and History  
and National Park Service

Assisted by Mississippi Humanities Council

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# Program Guide

May 1994

## 29 SUNDAY

- 12:00 WALL STREET WEEK (CC) (S)
- 12:30 WASHINGTON WEEK IN REVIEW (CC) (S)
- 1:00 OPEN AIR A preview of the "Natchez Literary Celebration", a gathering of literati and lovers of literature in one of the country's most charming cities. Jack Schweitzer hosts. (ETV)
- 1:30 TONY BROWN'S JOURNAL
- 2:00 TECHNOLOGY (S)
- 2:30 THE COLOR OF MONEY
- 3:00 ADAM SMITH
- 3:30 COLLEGE CREDIT COURSE "Art of the Western World" (CC)
- 4:30 THE COLLECTIONS
- 5:00 WORLD OF COLLECTOR CARS
- 5:30 ARTIFACTS (See 5/28, 7:30 P.M.) (ETV)
- 6:00 THE GHOSTWRITER HOUR (CC) (S)
- 6:25 MISSISSIPPI WEATHER NEWS (ETV)
- 6:30 NATIONAL MEMORIAL DAY CONCERT The National Symphony Orchestra and the U.S. Army chorus offer a musical salute in the spirit of Memorial Day. Broadcast live from the West Lawn of the Capitol building. (CC) (S)
- 9:00 MASTERPIECE THEATRE "A Perfect Hero" A successful businessman is now an RAF fighter and wants to fight the Germans. During a dog fight, his plane is hit and he is horribly burned. (Part 1 of 4) (CC)
- 10:30 I'LL FLY AWAY "Real Politik" "Small Wishes" (See 5/23, 10:30 P.M.) (CC) (S)
- 11:55 JOB BANK
- 12:03 STAR HUSTLER



standard talent release

MISSISSIPPI AUTHORITY FOR EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION  
P. O. BOX 1101/JACKSON, MS 39215-1101/601-982-6565

PARTICIPANT'S NAME: Carolyn Vance Smith  
PROGRAM TITLE: Open Air 336 Natchez Literary Celebrations  
PRODUCTION DATE(S): Mon May 9, 1994 - 1-4 p.m.

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Address: Copiah - Lincoln Community College  
Natchez, MS 39120

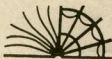
By: \_\_\_\_\_

By: Carolyn Vance Smith

Signature

Signature





The Fifth Annual Award-winning  
**NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION**  
Natchez, Mississippi  
Presents

**MISSISSIPPI'S LITERARY  
HERITAGE:  
BLACK AND WHITE  
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June 2-4, 1994

Featuring

- Lectures by internationally known scholars and writers on Mississippi's history, literature, people, and events
- Related field trips and tours of historic houses
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- Workshops, exhibits, and autograph party
- Presentation of the first Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award to Eudora Welty
- Gala receptions, garden parties, and meals

...

Fee for lectures only \$20

Total fee for lectures, tours,

meals, and parties: \$75

FOR INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION FORM,  
PLEASE CALL OR WRITE:

**Natchez Box Office**

(601) 445-0353

P.O. Box 1264

1-800-862-3259 Natchez, MS 39121-1264

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Mississippi Department  
of Archives and History,  
and National Park Service.

Assisted by Mississippi Humanities Council

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# MAGAZINE

Sunday Advocate

MAY 15, 1994

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## Natchez Literary Celebration

The fifth annual Natchez Literary Celebration is scheduled June 2-4, with the theme "Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over."

The three-day event will include lectures, tours of historic homes and sites, a play, a movie and special entertainments and parties in honor of Mississippi's multi-cultural literary heritage.

Among the topics to be discussed by renowned educators and authors are:

- "Aaron Burr and His Legendary Mississippi Connections";

- "The Black Experience in Natchez, 1720-1890";

- "A Mississippian Defends a Nation: Jefferson Davis as Confederate President, 1862";

- "War, Race and Social Change: Two Perspectives on the Fiction of Stark Young";

- "The Fourth Estate: Newspapers as Social Chronicles";

- "A Dark, Wide World That You Can

Breathe In: William Faulkner, Tennessee Williams and the Old South";

- "Everybody to Their Own Visioning: Eudora Welty and the State of Letters"; and

- "Mississippi Literature as Anthropologist and Futurist."

The cost for attending the three days of lectures is \$20, or \$10 for one day.

To attend *Prince of Slaves*, the premiere of a play about Ibrahim, a royal slave, and his Natchez master, a \$10 ticket is required.

The Literary Landmark tour is \$15, and the gala reception at Stanton Hall is \$10.

Other events, such as a screening of Richard Wright's *Native Son*, are free to the public.

For a flyer listing all events, and a ticket form, write to Natchez Literary Celebration, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, 823 Highway 61 North, Natchez, MS 39120.

4C\*THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT, Natchez, Miss.

Sunday, May 22, 1994



## The Fifth Annual Award-winning NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION Natchez, Mississippi Presents

### MISSISSIPPI'S LITERARY HERITAGE: BLACK AND WHITE AND READ ALL OVER

June 2-4, 1994

Featuring

- Lectures by internationally known scholars and writers on Mississippi's history, literature, people and events
- Related field trips and tours of historic houses
- Premiere of a play about Prince Ibrahim, an African slave in Natchez
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- Showing and discussion of a film version of Richard Wright's *Native Son*
- Workshops, exhibits, and autograph party
- Presentation of the first Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award to Eudora Welty
- Gala receptions, garden parties and meals

Fee for lectures only \$20  
Total fee for lectures, tours,  
meals and parties: \$75

FOR INFORMATION PLEASE CALL  
NATCHEZ BOX OFFICE

(601) 445-0353  
1-800-862-3259

P. O. Box 1264  
Natchez, MS 39121-1264

Sponsored by  
Copiah-Lincoln Community College  
Mississippi Department of Archives  
and History, and National Park Service

Assisted by Mississippi  
Humanities Council

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# The Natchez

SUNDAY, MAY 22, 1994

# Democrat

## Event to honor state's diverse literary tradition

Adams County's  
Richard Wright  
will be discussed

By PETER O'CONNELL  
The Natchez Democrat

Organizers announce the success  
of the Natchez Literary Celebration  
in a simple format.

"People are  
very hungry  
for an oppor-  
tunity to dis-  
cuss books  
with other  
people who  
like books.  
And I think  
people like  
Natchez,"  
co-chairman  
Cynthia Yates Smith said.

Thousands of Natchez-loving  
individuals are expected to attend  
the fifth annual literary celebration  
July 2-4. "Mississippi's Literary



Julia Wright

Heritage: Black and White and  
Read All Over," the theme of the  
1994 festival, celebrates the state's  
diverse literary legacy.

### Highlights include:

■ The visit of Julia Wright, a  
Farrington journalist and daughter of  
Adams County native Richard  
Wright, who wrote "Native Son,"  
"Black Boy" and other works.

Richard Wright will be the  
subject of two special evenings.  
At 7:30 p.m. on Friday, June 3,  
the 1987 film version of "Native  
Son" will be shown in the City  
Auditorium. And at 7 p.m. on  
Saturday, June 4, in the auditorium,  
Madame Olivia Lucy Jr. of  
New York City will share excerpts  
from "The Making of Black Boy,"  
his documentary of Wright's life,  
which will air on Mississippi  
Educational Television this fall.  
Both events are free.

■ The return of Yates City  
native Walter Rabe, author of  
popular children's books and  
"New York Days," his acclaimed



Wally

memoir of his tenure as editor of  
Roper's Magazine.

More, no stranger to the  
literary celebration, will spend an  
hour on Friday, June 3, in the City  
Auditorium on his great-grand-  
father George Roper, who served



Wright

as editor of the Natchez County  
Gazette from the 1880s to the  
1930s.

■ The premier showing of  
Prince of the Shores, a play about  
Bridgman, a Natchez slave of royal  
descent. The work will be pre-

sented in the main gallery of  
Adams 210 Wright on Thursday,  
June 2. Tickets are \$10.

■ And the presentation of the  
first Richard Wright Literary  
Excellency Award to Evelyn  
Wiley. Julia Wright will become  
the award following her lecture on  
her father's works.

Smith said Wiley's health pre-  
cludes her from traveling to  
Natchez to accept the award.  
Instead, former first William  
Winters, noted again wearing an  
absence of proceedings, presented  
Wiley the medal in a videotaped  
ceremony.

Smith said that at future tradi-  
tions, the award will be given to a  
living Mississippi author of fiction  
or non-fiction.

Tickets for the lecture series are  
\$20. These, meals, including an  
one-on-one gourmet buffet at Episcopal  
Methodist Church, are also  
planned.

For more information call the  
Natchez Box Office at 447-8100.

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# Writers featured at Natchez event

■ Fifth Annual  
Literary Celebration  
is scheduled for  
June 2-4.



**SANDRA  
CAMPBOR**  
Arts Columnist

Julia Wright, the daughter of Mississippi-born writer Richard Wright, will be one of the lecturers during the Fifth Annual Natchez Literary Celebration.

The celebration will present "Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over" on June 2-4 in Natchez.

Wright will discuss her father's works and present the first Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award to Eudora Welty of Jackson.

Wright was the author of "Native Son" and "Black Boy." Wright was born near Natchez in 1908 and died in Paris, France in 1960.

Welty, who is a contemporary of Wright's, is the Pulitzer Prize winning author of "Delta Wedding," "The Ponder Heart" and "The Optimist's Daughter" among others.

Other speakers will include Glen Allan native Clifton Taulbert ("Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored"), Willie Morris ("North Toward Home"), and Patricia Mitchell ("Soul of Rice").

The topics for the lectures range from the writings of Welty and Wright to those of Jefferson Davis, southern food and social change.

In addition to the lectures and tours of historic sites, there will also be a play "Prince of the Slaves." The play is about Ibrahim, a royal slave and his Natchez master.

There will also be a book sale and booksigning party featuring many of the lecturers.

The ticket price for all the lec-

tures is \$20; lectures for one day only, \$10; the play, \$10; Friday's Kingston-area plantation tour with dinner on the grounds, \$20; Saturday's Literary Landmark Tour, \$15; Saturday's Gala reception at Stanton Hall, \$10; and Sunday's all-day writers' conference with luncheon at the Natchez Eola Hotel, \$20.

The lecture by Julia Wright is one of the free events as is a showing of the movie version of Wright's "Native Son." The movie features Mississippi native Oprah Winfrey.

For more information, call Natchez Box Office at (601) 445-0333 or 1-800-862-3259.

Or write: Natchez Box Office, P.O. Box 1264, Natchez, MS 39121-1264.

Speaking of Mississippi writers, Nevada Barr of Clinton recently won the Agatha Award for best first mystery novel. The award is named after English mystery writer Agatha Christie and is awarded annually by the Malice Domestic Convention.

The winning book was "Track of the Cat" which introduced park ranger/sleuth Anna Pigeon. Her second book was "A Superior Death" and her latest effort, "Death in Ruins" was published last month.

Like her fictional alter-ego, Barr is a ranger - for the U.S. Park Service and assigned to the Natchez Trace Parkway.

Local writers will offer up their literary wares at 3 p.m. today at Talibah Literary Club's "An Afternoon of Poetry." This poetry salon will be conducted in the natural splendor of the Mock-Kittleman garden of the Greenville Area Chamber of Commerce.

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■ **JUNE** will kick off another Natchez Literary Celebration. The 1994 celebration will take a look at greats in Southern literature and provide lighter entertainment and tours of some of the area's historic sites. Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the Natchez National Historical Park, the celebration is an international event.

Information about tickets is available at Natchez Box Office, 1-800-862-3259, or locally, 445-0353. Address correspondence to Natchez Literary Celebration, P.O. Box 894, Natchez, Miss. 39121-0894.

■ Mid June will find Victorians enthusiasts having a wonderful time touring some of the fine late 19th-century mansions in Natchez. More information at Natchez Pilgrimage Tours.

■ June is steamboat time in Natchez, too, with the annual Steamboat Jubilee and Floozie Parade taking place when the Mississippi Queen and Delta Queen steamboats stop in the Miss-Lou during their annual race from New Orleans to St. Louis.

■ For another twist to historic Natchez, be sure to stop by Historic Jefferson College during Pioneer Week, when the college hosts a program for area children that provides hands-on experiences in pioneer life of 150 to 200 years ago.

Tuesday, May 24, 1994

THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT



## The Fifth Annual Award-winning NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION

Natchez, Mississippi

Presents

### MISSISSIPPI'S LITERARY HERITAGE: BLACK AND WHITE AND READ ALL OVER

June 2-4, 1994

Featuring

- Lectures by internationally known scholars and writers on Mississippi's history, literature, people and events
- Related field trips and tours of historic houses
- Premiere of a play about Prince Ibrahim, an African slave in Natchez
- Excerpts from Mississippi ETV documentary about Natchez author Richard Wright
- Showing and discussion of a film version of Richard Wright's Native Son
- Workshops, exhibits, and autograph party
- Presentation of the first Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award to Eudora Welty
- Gala receptions, garden parties and meals

Fee for lectures only \$20  
Total fee for lectures, tours,  
meals and parties: \$75

#### FOR INFORMATION PLEASE CALL NATCHEZ BOX OFFICE

(601) 445-0353  
1-800-862-3259

P.O. Box 1264  
Natchez, MS 39121-1264

Sponsored by  
Copiah-Lincoln Community College  
Mississippi Department of Archives  
and History, and National Park Service

Assisted by Mississippi  
Humanities Council

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The Fifth Annual Award-winning  
**NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION**  
Natchez, Mississippi  
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and History, and National Park Service

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# The Natchez Democrat OPINION

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 1994

## Celebration highlights living history

Part of Natchez's famous charm is something very few other cities in America can claim: This community's history is very much alive, well and vibrant.

Over and over, people say that is one of the things they love about the annual Natchez Literary Celebration. They get a big kick out of hearing a lecture and then going outside and seeing what the lecturer was talking about.

The Celebration, set for June 2-4, is proudly co-sponsored for the first time this year by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Other sponsors are Capital-Lincoln Community College and the National Park Service.

Two special tours of historic Natchez this year will exemplify what I mean.

On Friday, June 3, from 4:15 to 7:15 p.m. will be a tour of the Kingston-Second Creek neighborhood in southern Adams County. Participants will visit three plantation houses rarely open to the public.

These are Cherry Grove on Kingston Road, owned by Grace MacNeil and home of Ricky and Sherry Rowlin; Woodstock on Carmel Church Road, home of Tommy and Patsy Armstrong; and Hillside on Hatchins Landing Road, home of Walter and Virginia Salmon.

Tour-goers will also stop at two historic churches, Carmel Baptist and Kingston Methodist. At the latter, the churchwomen will serve an old-fashioned "dinner on the grounds" — complete with chicken and dumplings and homemade coconut cake.

This tour and dinner are tightly connected with three lectures June 2 and June 3. One is on Anthony Hatchins, an 18th century settler whose name lives on as the name of a road; another is on Southern foods and their influence



### Top of the Morning

Jim Barnett  
Natchez resident

on Southern culture; and a third is on the history of the Kingston-Second Creek area.

Another tour is tightly connected to the lecture series will be Saturday, June 4, from 2 to 5 p.m. This Literary Landmark Tour features two ride-bys and five stops, all associated with books and authors.

The ride-bys are the Woodlawn Street area, where Natchez author Richard Wright as a child visited his grandparents, and the other is the Foster Mound area, where the African prince Ibrahima lived and worked. His life inspired the biography "Prince Among Slaves." Both Wright and Ibrahima are subjects of lectures.

Tour stops are:

■ The William Johnson House on State Street, owned by the National Park Service. This was once the home of William Johnson, a free Black barber who kept a 16-year diary and inspired the biography "The Barber of Natchez."

■ The Marshalk family home on North Pearl Street, believed to have been built by Mississippi's "father of journalism," Andrew Marshalk, for his daughter. Today the house is the home of Helen Spencer.

■ Lansdowne on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Street, once the home of the late Marshall Macclroy, who in the 1950s wrote a children's book called "Six Little Girls of Lansdowne." The little girls, Mrs. Macclroy's grandchildren, are now grown up. They will have reprints of the book for sale during the tour.

■ Mount Repose, also on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street, former home of the 19th century author Elizabeth Bistand. She is the subject of three upcoming biographies. This historic home, in the same for generations, houses an unusual collection of antique books and is now the home of Natchez Mayor Butch Brown and his family.

■ Historic Jefferson College at Jefferson is an official state Historic Site administered by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Many of the school's professors were authors, notably Joseph Holt Ingraham, who wrote "The South-west by a Yankee." The college was also the home of The Southern Planter, an agricultural journal.

At Historic Jefferson College on June 4 at 2 p.m. and at 3:30 p.m., the Natchez Community Band will present concerts, and the Mississippi Heritage Trust will serve refreshments.

Tickets for the lecture are \$10 per day or \$25 for three days; for the Kingston tour and dinner, \$20; and for the Literary Landmark Tour, \$15. All are available by calling the Natchez Box Office at (601) 445-0353.

Won't you join us in celebrating Natchez's rich literary heritage? See you next week at the Literary Celebration.

Jim Barnett is director of the division of historic properties in the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

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**LESLIE R.  
MYERS**

TV Columnist  
The Clarion-Ledger

## BBC adds weight to ETV production on Richard Wright

The late, great Mississippi writer Richard Wright will find a piece of immortality.

The Natchez native and former Jacksonian will be celebrated in *Black Boy*, a film being co-produced by Mississippi ETV and the British Broadcasting Corp.

It's the largest production ever undertaken by ETV.

It's also the first documentary about Wright — and it's well deserved.

"The thrust is recognizing him as a truly great American author and it's celebrating a Mississippi son," said *Black Boy* co-executive producer Jef Judin of ETV. "He wasn't given the credit he deserved in his lifetime."

Wright wrote 16 books, including at least two classics — *Native Son*, a 1940 novel, and *Black Boy*, a 1945 autobiography.

*Black Boy* producer/director/writer Madison Davis Lacy — a Peabody, Emmy and DuPont Award winner — has said of the African-American intellectual, "Wright was the literary father to a whole generation of writers, black and white. Our film will reveal him to be a complex man who long ago challenged America by showing the rage, fear and alienation that every African American possesses. Our task is to match his passion on the screen."

## Far-reaching project

The 90-minute film began as an ETV project about 2½ years ago. It was shot in Mississippi, St. Louis, Chicago, New York and Paris. About 95 percent of filming is complete. Production is expected to wrap Aug. 30, Judin said.

The documentary will carry more than 25 interviews with Wright's friends and associates — including Jackson writer Margaret Walker Alexander — dramatic recreations of excerpts from his stories, and archival film footage and still photographs of Wright.

Judin said *Black Boy* will have its world premiere in Great Britain over the BBC in October.

Before the end of this year, ETV plans to premiere it in the United States. PBS will present it in a nationwide broadcast in 1995.

"We're hoping that PBS will pick it up for Black History Month in February," Judin said.

The film explores Wright's life from his 1908 birth, growing up poor in Mississippi, moving to Memphis, then on to Chicago in 1927. From the Chicago era, Judin said the film covers Wright "becoming an important part of the Communist Party, getting disenfranchised with the Communist Party and moving to Paris (in 1947), where he became an existentialist."

He died in 1960 in Paris, where he is buried.

The film is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and the BBC.

## Fun with numbers

On May 12, WAPT-Channel 16 ran a full-page ad in a Jackson weekly newspaper saying "The Clarion Ledger (sic) won't tell you which shows you and your neighbors watch." In this case, *The Clarion-Ledger* would be me. Four times a year, I report the Nielsen ratings that measure mid-Mississippi TV viewership for local stations WAPT, WLBT-Channel 3, WJTV-Channel 12 and WDBD-Channel 40.

WAPT's ad complains that periodic story does not focus on "metro" ratings for the three-county Jackson area. There's good reason.

The story, written to serve all of our mid-Mississippi readers, covers viewership in the 24-county area. Because WAPT often comes in a distant third behind WLBT and WJTV in that zone, WAPT pitches its tri-county metro ratings — which rank them No. 2 sometimes, if we ignore the other 21 counties. There's also not story space to cover metro minutia.

"It sounds like, 'I lost the game, but my punter had a good average,'" WLBT general manager Dan Modisett said of the ad. "No metro rating is important — period. We all are licensed to serve 24 counties, not three."

"It's critical because it's where the concentration of the viewers are located," said WAPT general manager Stuart Kellogg. "It's how we sell the station. Most of our advertisers, their customer base is the metro."

Leslie R. Myers' TV column appears on Wednesday. To contact her, call 961-7280.

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HISTORIC

*Natchez*

ON THE MISSISSIPPI

## MEMORANDUM

TO: VIDEO LOCATIONS  
FROM: STEPHANIE HOWARD  
DATE: MAY 27, 1994  
RE: NATCHEZ VIDEO

Enclosed is a copy of the tentative production schedule for the Natchez video. We will try to stay as close to the schedule as possible. If we will be early or are running late I will call you to let you know.

If you have any problems with your time and date please call me as soon as possible.

Many thanks to all of you who are contributing meals and or accommodations.

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## **NATCHEZ VIDEO TENTATIVE PRODUCTION SCHEDULE**

### **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1**

10:00 am	Meet at end of The Natchez Trace
11:00 am	Jefferson College
12:00 noon	Antique Row/Street scape/Trolley Mainstreet area
1:00 pm	Lunch at Local Color
2:00 pm	Natchez Under The Hill Lady Luck Mississippi Queen
3:30 pm	Monmouth Gardens Interior B & B
5:00 pm	National Park - Melrose
8:00 pm	Dinner at Monmouth

### **THURSDAY, JUNE 2**

7:30 am	Breakfast at The Fare
8:30 am	Dunleith, Glen Auburn, Longwood, Magnolia Hall
12:00 pm	Lunch at Clara Nells

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1:00 pm	Double-Decker Bus Tours Canal Street Depot area (putt-putt golf, shopping, carriage rides)
2:30 pm	Historic Natchez Foundation Natchez Collection
3:30 pm	Catch-up filming
6:00 pm	National Park Literary Celebration
8:30 pm	Dinner at Wharfmaster's House (entertainment and dining shot)

# **FRIDAY, JUNE 3**

9:00 am	Breakfast
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\* Each evening we would like to catch Under-The-Hill at sunset depending on weather and time.

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**LESLIE R. MYERS**

Arts Columnist  
The Clarion-Ledger

## Passion for past keeps Natchez high on literary festival

Natchez, long a bastion of cultural and historic wealth, has been reasserting itself as a haven for literary thought.

The still-growing, always-improving Natchez Literary Celebration will serve up its fifth annual feast Thursday through Saturday.

A truly eminent array of writers, scholars and events are planned to explore the theme *Mississippi Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over*.

Uniquely, this year's festival will bring Julia Wright — daughter of Natchez favorite son and legendary author, the late Richard Wright — to the historic river city for only the second time.

The celebration will mark her first public appearance in Natchez. In a Saturday night lecture, the accomplished journalist/author will survey her father's life, family and classic autobiography, *Black Boy*.

Wright lives in Paris, where Richard Wright spent his last years. Her first visit to Natchez, in the 1980s, was to meet her relatives.

The celebration's founder/co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith said the secret to its success might be dialogue.

"People are simply thrilled to meet and be with the authors and scholars," Smith said. "We try to arrange many opportunities for the audience to get close to the lecturers — and we encourage the lecturers to come to the entire conference so they can mix with everyone."

"We have people from every walk of life ... from all across the country."

## The work of many helping hands

Smith is coordinator of the English department at Natchez's Copiah-Lincoln Community College. Co-Lin sponsors with event with the Mississippi Department of Archives & History and the National Park Service. The Mississippi Council for the Humanities helped with funding.

Most activities will be in Natchez Municipal Auditorium. Celebration highlights include:

■ Jackson literary giant Eudora Welty earned the first Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award. Welty won't be able to make the trip to receive the honor (\$500, a certificate and a medal), but participants will see her receive the award on video. It was presented to her May 19 by former Gov. William Winter at her Belhaven home. A ceremony feting Welty still will be held in Natchez, led by Winter and Wright.

■ *Prince of Slaves*, a play based on the true story of an African prince kidnapped in West Africa and sold into slavery in Natchez, will have its world premiere Thursday night.

■ Such exceptional scribes as Willie Morris (*North Toward Home*, *New York Days*) of Jackson and Glen Allan Clifton Taulbert (*Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored*) of Tulsa will lecture on various days.

■ The writings of Mississippians Wright, Welty, Morris, William Faulkner, Tennessee Williams, Stark Young, Aaron Burr, Jefferson Davis and others will be explored.

## A scholarly perspective

■ Outstanding history and literary scholars, will speak, including the University of Mississippi's David Sansing and Charles Reagan Wilson; Douglas Inglis of Seville, Spain; and others from Tougaloo College, Louisiana State University, University of Illinois, Texas Christian University, Southern Illinois University and University of New Orleans.

■ Writers and scholars will appear at a book-signing party at noon Saturday.

■ Catch sneak preview excerpts Saturday night of the documentary *Black Boy*, about Richard Wright's life, produced by Mississippi ETV and the British Broadcasting Corp.

■ *Native Son*, a 1987 film based on Wright's novel that stars Kosciusko native Oprah Winfrey, will run Friday night.

■ Dinners, refreshments, exhibits and historic tours will sweeten the schedule.

■ Ancillary events will include the Mississippi Writers Association's annual conference Sunday at the Natchez Eola Hotel.

For details on the Natchez Literary Celebration, watch *Open Air* at 1 p.m. today on ETV. For tickets (which range from \$10 to a \$96 package) or details, call 1-800-862-3259 or 445-0353.

■  
Leslie R. Myers' arts column appears on Sunday. To contact her, call 961-7280.

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# The Natchez Democrat PEOPLE

SUNDAY, MAY 29, 1994

## Literary Landmarks

By STACY GRANING  
The Natchez Democrat

**T**he six little girls will return to Lansdowne this weekend as they help host a literary landmarks tour for the Natchez Literary Celebration.

Antebellum Lansdowne, the William Johnson House on State Street, the Andrew Marshchalk Family home on North Pearl Street, Mount Repose and Historic Jefferson College are five of the main stops on the tour, designed to introduce local residents and festival participants to some of the people behind the rich literary heritage of Natchez.

"This gives us a chance to talk about the people and their connections to authors," said Carolyn Vance Smith, who coordinates the conference. The celebration is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the National Park Service.

This tour, which costs \$15, was originated by Joan McLemore, a librarian at Co-Lin in Natchez.

"Last year I did a lot of research in the lives of authors who lived in Natchez over the last 200 years," McLemore said. "I found more than 90 authors; and since then, I've found even more than that."

Her research led to the first literary landmarks tour, conducted for the participants in a state Library Association convention. When the opportunity arose to offer a similar tour for the award-winning literary festival, McLemore couldn't resist.

"The remarkable thing here is there is so much history recorded and so much proof of these things," she said. "And so many of these authors have different stories."

The tour, which includes five stops and two drive-through visits, can be conducted in any order between 2 and 5 p.m. on Saturday. The stops include:

■ The William Johnson House on State Street. This house, part of the Natchez National Historical Park, was home in the mid 19th Century to a free black barber named William Johnson. He was one of the most successful free blacks in the state, and his secret diary, kept for 16 years, served as the inspiration for the biography "The Barber of Natchez."

■ The Andrew Marshchalk Family

Home, 306 N. Pearl St. The house is believed to have been built in the early 19th Century by Marshchalk for his daughter. Marshchalk, called the "father of journalism" in Mississippi, came to the Mississippi Territory in 1802 to live permanently, bringing with him a small mahogany printing press. He published the Mississippi Herald and The Natchez Gazette until 1807 and published the Washington Republic from 1813-1817.

He befriended Ibrahim, a prince who was a slave, and assisted in the freedom of Ibrahim's wife. Today, the house is the home of Helen Spencer.

■ Lansdowne, a plantation home of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive dating to 1853, has been in the Marshall family since its construction. In the 20th century, it was home to the late Margaret Marshall, author of a children's book, "Six Little Girls of Lansdowne," which has been reprinted several times. "The little girls, Marshall's granddaughters, are now grown up and will serve as hostesses for the tour, wearing hoopskirts as they once did when their grandmother wrote about them," Smith said.

Copies of the book also will be available for sale and autographing during the tour. The mansion also has been featured in numerous architecture and furnishings books.

■ Mount Repose, which dates to 1824, is also a plantation home of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive which has been in the same family for generations and today is home of Natchez Mayor Larry L. "Butch" Brown and his wife, Shields. "The Shields and Bisland families who lived there in the 19th century collected numerous books, ranging from fiction to poetry to travel books to medical books," Smith said. "Part of the family's significant antique book collection will be on display during the tour."

Also, the house was home to 19th century author Elizabeth Bisland, who wrote poetry, was a journalist for the Times-Democrat in New Orleans and editor of Cosmopolitan magazine in New York. She also wrote a dozen books.

■ Historic Jefferson College at Washington, established in 1802 as the first incorporated school in Mississippi, closed its doors to students in 1964. "Numerous authors are associated with the school, including Jefferson Davis,

See LITERARY, Page 6C

### Literary

Continued from Page 1C

who was a student there," Smith said. Davis wrote "The Rise and Fall of the Confederacy."

The ride-by tours include the Richard Wright family neighbor-

hood on East Woodlawn Street and Foster Mound on Foster Mound Road.

Wright was the author of "Black Boy" and "Native Son," among other books based on his life. He is thought to have stayed at his grandmother's home at 20 E. Woodlawn St. when he was a child.

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# Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over

Presentations are in the Natchez Municipal Auditorium, 207 Jefferson Street, unless otherwise noted.

## Thursday, June 2, 1994

- 9:00 a.m. Welcome and Introductions  
Dr. Billy B. Thomas, President  
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
- 9:15 a.m. "Two Centuries of Creativity in Mississippi Black and White and Read All Over"  
Dr. Charles Reagan Wilson  
The University of Mississippi, Oxford
- 10:15 a.m. Refreshments, Hosted by Copiah-Lincoln
- 10:45 a.m. "Sepia's Tony, Long and Bury Anthony Hutchins, the Inactive Tony of 18th-Century Natchez"  
Dr. G. Douglas Inglis  
Seville, Spain
- 1:30 p.m. "Aaron Burr and His Legendary Mississippi Connections"  
Dr. Robert V. Remini  
The University of Illinois, Chicago
- 2:30 p.m. Refreshments, Hosted by Copiah-Lincoln
- 3:00 p.m. "The Black Experience in Natchez, 1739-1888"  
Dr. Ronald L.F. Davis  
California State University, Northridge
- 4:00-5:00 p.m. Free Guided Tours of Melrose, a National Historic Landmark
- 6:00-6:00 p.m. Free Guided Tours of The Museum of the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture
- 6:30 p.m. *Prince of the Slavers* (\$10 Ticket Needed)  
• The Premiere of a Play about Benjamin, a Royal Slave, and His Natchez Master, to Be Presented on the Rear Gallery of Melrose, Starring Mr. William Gwathmey, National Park Service, Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Mr. Richard Pawling, History Alive, Reading, Pennsylvania  
• Tours of Melrose and Garden Party, Hosted by the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture

## Friday, June 3, 1994

- 9:00 a.m. "A Mississippian Defends a Nation: Jefferson Davis as Confederate President, 1862"  
Dr. Grady McWhiney  
Texas Christian University, Fort Worth

- 10:00 a.m. Refreshments, Hosted by Copiah-Lincoln
- 10:30 a.m. "War, Race, and Social Change: Two Perspectives on the Fiction of Stark Young"  
Dr. Robert C. Peterson and  
Dr. Jacquelyn Jackson  
Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro
- 1:00 p.m. "The Fourth Estate: Newspapers as Social Chronicles"  
• "Two Centuries of Newspapers in Mississippi"  
Dr. David Starnes  
The University of Mississippi, Oxford  
• "The Black Press in Mississippi, 1865-1885"  
Dr. John Eric Thompson  
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale  
• "My Ancestor, George Harper, Editor of the Hinds County, Mississippi, Gazette"  
Mr. Willie Morris  
Jackson, Mississippi
- 2:30 p.m. Refreshments, Hosted by Copiah-Lincoln
- 3:00 p.m. "Good Food, Good Folks, and Good Times: The Role of Southern Foods in Southern Culture"  
Mrs. Patricia B. Mitchell  
Chatham, Virginia
- 3:45 p.m. "Hanging and Second Creek: Country Communities"  
Dr. Elizabeth MacNeil Buggess  
Natchez, Mississippi
- 4:15-7:15 p.m. "Hanging and Second Creek: Anthony Hutchins' Neighborhood" (\$20 Ticket Needed)  
Tours of Woodstock, Cherry Grove, and Hilda Plantations, with Refreshments at Woodstock and Dinner on the Grounds at Hanging Methodist Church
- 7:30 p.m. "Let's Go to the Movies: Richard Wright's *Native Son*" (Free to the Public, with Refreshments and Door Prizes, Courtesy of Natchez Coca-Cola Company and Bookbinders, University Press of Mississippi)  
• "An Overview of Two Film Versions of the Famous Novel, *Native Son*"  
Dr. Charles G. Vahlkamp  
Centre College, Danville, Kentucky  
• *Native Son: A Showing of the 1987 Film*, Starring Matt Dillon and Oprah Winfrey  
• "Cinematic Ironies: *Native Son* as Literature and Film"  
Dr. Jerry Ward  
Trenton College, Trenton, New Jersey

## Saturday, June 4, 1994

- 9:00 a.m. "A Dark, Wide World That You Can Breathe In: William Faulkner, Tennessee Williams, and the Old South"  
Dr. W. Kenneth Halditch  
The University of New Orleans
- 10:00 a.m. "Everybody to Their Own Visioning: Endorsa Woby and the State of Letters"  
Dr. Peggy W. Peadarshaw  
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge
- 11:00 a.m. Refreshments, Hosted by Copiah-Lincoln
- 11:15 a.m. "Mississippi Literature as Anthropologist and Futurist"  
Mr. Clifton Taulbert  
Tulsa, Oklahoma
- 12:00 p.m. Book Sale and Booksigning Party  
Honoring All Lecturers  
(Free to the Public)
- 2:00-5:00 p.m. "Literary Landmark Tour" (\$15 Ticket Needed)  
A Tour of Sites Associated with Books and Authors:  
• The William Johnson House (Tour Stop)  
• Andrew Marshack Family Home (Tour Stop)  
• Richard Wright Family Neighborhood  
• Landowine (Tour Stop)  
• Mount Repose (Tour Stop)  
• Foster Mount  
• Historic Jefferson College (Tour Stop with Refreshments Hosted by Mississippi Heritage Trust)
- 7:00 p.m. "An Evening with Richard Wright"  
(Free to the Public)  
• "The Making of *Black Boy*, a 1994 Mississippi Educational Television Documentary," with Excerpts from the Documentary  
Mr. Madison Davis Lacy, Jr.  
New York, New York  
• "Black Boy's Children"  
Ms. Julia Wright  
Paris, France  
• Presentation of the First Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award  
Ms. Wright
- 9:00 p.m. "Mississippi: It Leaves a Great Taste in Your Mouth" (\$10 Ticket Needed)  
A Film Devoted to "Southern Food"

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# Judge George W. Armstrong Library

Homochitto Valley Library Service

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## ANNOUNCEMENT OF GENEALOGY/HISTORICAL RESEARCH WORKSHOP

### "The Colonial Natchez Database Project Continues"

The Judge George W. Armstrong Library will be hosting a genealogy/historical research workshop on Wednesday, June 1, 1994, at the library. Dr. G. Douglas Inglis of Spain will be back to present information on the Colonial Natchez Database Project, an ongoing and developing project here at the library.

#### Library opens at 9 a.m.

#### Morning session begins promptly at 9:30 a.m. in meeting room.

Morning topics include a brief summary of the database project and The People of Colonial Natchez : details of the census, oaths of allegiance and other sources for discovering who was who.

#### Lunch on your own. approximately 1-2pm.

Afternoon session will cover the Spanish Commandants and ideas for using the Colonial Natchez Database. Dr. Inglis and participants may work with the Database until the library closes at 6 p.m.

Last year, Dr. Inglis described the organization, structure and location of colonial Natchez documentation and the basic of The Colonial Natchez Database Project. Following a summary of the 1993 event, he will examine in detail the demographic materials for the period, the oaths of allegiance taken by immigrants to Spanish Natchez and the Spanish commandants and their correspondence - all from materials primarily in the Archivo General de Indias, Seville, Spain. The materials collected in The Colonial Natchez Database provide a new dimension in historical research, and various "searches" will be undertaken to show the power of modern information techniques applied to an historical database.

### WORKSHOP REGISTRATION AND LIMITS

Workshop is limited to 40 people. Cost of workshop is \$10.00. Registration and payment in advance are necessary. Those registering will be sent a receipt when payment is received. The receipt is necessary for admittance to the workshop. Call the library (601-445-8862) to register. Checks are to be made to the Armstrong Library.

CO-SPONSORS: NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION and FIRST FAMILIES OF MISSISSIPPI

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**THE NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION**, founded by our very own Carolyn Vance Smith, and sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and The National Park Service, will be June 2-4. This year's celebration theme is *"Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over"*, and will highlight Mississippi's extraordinary multi-cultural literary heritage. Many of our parishioners are involved in this year's celebration. To purchase tickets, or for more information, please contact Natchez Box Office at 445-0353. Brochures are available from the Parish Office.

Volume 1, Number 10, May/June 1994

Mississippi  
Writers'  
Association  
Newsletter



JOURNAL  
CLIPPINGS

President:  
Dr. Ben Douglas  
Executive Director:  
Jo Barksdale 362-4864  
Editor:  
Woodford Smith 993-4848  
Vice President/Treasurer:  
John Lippert 857-8219

## Natchez Literary Celebration

June 2 - 5, 1994

### 7th ANNUAL MISSISSIPPI WRITERS CONFERENCE IS JUNE 5th

The 7th annual Mississippi Writers Conference will feature six successful Mississippi writers who will be discussing every phase of their writing careers. Featured speaker Greg Iles, author of *Spandau Phoenix*, will reveal, "How to make Six Figures On Your First Novel." Renown authors and teachers Rob Dolby, Ben Douglas, Elizabeth Bowne, Jerry Ward and Mary Brantley, will explore topics such as writing the manuscript, finding an agent, up-to-date methods of getting your book published, and why some authors are more successful than others.

The conference will be held Sunday, June 5, in Natchez, according to Jo Barksdale, Director of the Mississippi Writers Association.

"Our regular meetings are held in Jackson," Barksdale says, "Last year's conference as an adjunct to the Natchez Literary Celebration was so successful that we decided to do it again this year. We want people to be able to take advantage of both programs.' The event is partially funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The after sessions from 2:00 to 5:00pm are free and open to the public. A small fee of \$20 will be charged for the morning sessions and lunch.

The Mississippi Writers Conference begins at 8:30am with registration on Sunday morning in the ballroom of the Natchez Eola Hotel in downtown Natchez.

The Natchez Literary Celebration is June 2-4. This award-winning international conference will take place in the historic river city of Natchez, Miss., home of many writers and the inspiration of numerous others.

Don't Be disappointed this year! Get your reservations in early! We have a tremendous line up of speakers for

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you and the charge is only \$20.00. (This includes lunch and all speakers until 2pm Sunday.)

For further information contact:

- Jo Barksdale, Director
- Mississippi Writers Association,
- P.O. Box 1278, Jackson, Mississippi 39215
- (601) 352-6864

For reservations contact: Jackson, Ms. 352-6864 or Natchez Box Office: 1-800-862-3259.

### \*\*\* Attention \*\*\*

**Conference Reservations must be in by June 2nd!**

The Eola Hotel says the lunch reservations AFLIST in by Friday morning. No lunch reservations will be accepted after June 2nd.

### Conference Schedule and Speakers...

**9:00 Dr. Ben Douglas, A Viable Alternative To the New York Publishing Scene.** Douglas is author of Reset Your Appetite and Ageless (Quail Ridge Press). His first children's book, What Are Little Girls For? (Delta Press), was released in 1993. Dr. Douglas has recently signed a contract with Southern Publisher's to market his next children's book titles. Douglas will publish them and possibly some children's books by other authors. Southern Publishers is basically a consortium of independent publishers. Some of them are self-published. Others are looking for manuscripts from other writers. One of their self-publishers is now number one on the NY Times best selling list after selling the right's to his book to Time-Warner.

**10:00 Rob Dalby** (Author of, God of the Door, Palmetto Lodge Press.) Rob, whose real name is Rob Kuchulic, is a native of Natchez, MS., and has worked as a bookseller, manuscript scout, freelance writer, and radio and TV announcer. His new book has been nominated by the MS Library Association for their 1994 Fiction Award. Thorndike bought the large print rights for his novel last summer, and their edition has just been released. God Of The Door has also been on Waldenbook's Best Selling List. Currently Dalby is a representative to libraries for one book distributor and two publishers. His topic will be: The Small Press Publishing Window: How To Step Through

**11:00 Elizabeth Bowne, Techniques of the Selling Short Story.** Elizabeth Bowne is a professional writer, teacher, and world traveler. She has written three books, Cocha, Gift From the African Heart, and Their Silent Message. Her many short stories and articles have appeared in national and international journals. She teaches a creative writing workshop at the Univ. of Southern Mississippi, and every spring holds a writers' retreat at her antebellum home in south Georgia. Long involved in international affairs and the work of the United Nations, Bowne actively works toward worldwide peace and brotherhood.

**12:30 Greg Isles' Spondan Phoenix** (Dutton, NY) was released in 1993. He has recently sold the rights to Signet with an impressive 5000,000 copies being printed in paperback. Isles is a Natchez Author and promises to release another book in 1995. His topic will be: How To Make Six Figures On Your First Novel.

**1:30 Adam David Miller** is an Author, poet, playwright, television producer, editor and publisher from Berkley California. As a special treat, Miller will read some poetry from his award-winning book.

**Mississippi Humanities Council Speakers...**  
(These will be afternoon speakers, free and open to public.)  
Mary Brantley (2:00), the literary genius of John Gresham

Jerry W. Ward, Jr. (3:00), The Legacy of Richard Wright.

### 4:00 - 5:00 Book Signing

Make plans NOW to attend this very special 1994 event!!!

## Morning Mantra

**By: Adam David Miller**  
Morning means re-ordering aches and grimaces,  
Mostly it's swivel parts and knees.  
Four fingers of right hand hold my body  
hostage. Pain streaks through them to neck  
and the twitch in shoulder starts a dance.  
Mind says get up, get up. Six o'clock,  
day's waiting. But body: "Hey, I need  
a jump start a brand new heart. A pig's foot  
and a bottle of beer or two" Unh unh, naw,  
maybe an aspirin or so will have to do.

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## Fifth Natchez Literary Celebration

*June 2-4*

Mississippi's extraordinary, multi cultural literary legacy will be explored June 2-4, 1994, through a series of lectures, guided tours of related historic sites, music, drama, and gala social events during the fifth annual Natchez Literary Celebration.

This Award-winning international conference will take place in the historic river city of Natchez, Miss., home of many writers and the inspiration of numerous others.

Using the theme "Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read all Over" the conference is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the National Park Service. The event is financially assisted by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Emphasis will be on books associated with noted African-Americans and Whites, particularly Natchez's own Richard Wright, author of Native Son and Black Boy.

A conference highlight will be a lecture by Wright's daughter, Julia Wright, of Paris, France. She will discuss her father's works and afterward will present the first Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award to Mississippi's internationally acclaimed author, Eudora Welty of Jackson, Miss.

During the conference Welty's works will be discussed, as will those by or about other legendary Mississippi Figures, including William Faulkner, Tennessee Williams, Willie

Morris, Aaron Burr, Andrew Marchalk and Jefferson Davis.

Again this year, William F. Winder of Jackson, Miss., will serve as director of proceedings. Former governor of Mississippi, Winder is longtime president of the Archives and History board of trustees.

Among 19 internationally known lectures will be the historians Dr. Robert V. Remini of The University of Illinois, Dr. Grady McWhitney of Texas Christian University, Dr. Douglas Inglis of Seville Spain, Dr. Julius Eric Thompson of Southern Illinois University; and Dr. Charles Reagan Wilson and Dr. David Sansing of The University of Mississippi.

Also on the program are Willie Morris of Jackson, Miss., author of New York Days; Clifton Taulbert of Tulsa, Okla., author of Once Upon A time When We Were Colored; Patricia Mitchell of Chatham, Va., author of Soul on Rice; and Dr. Ward of Tougaloo (Miss) College, an expert on Richard Wright.

Tickets for the lecture series are \$20, with optional, low-cost means and tours. Information is available by calling Natchez box office at (601) 445 0353 or 1-800-862-3259 or by writing Natchez Literary Celebration, P.O. Box 894, Natchez, MS 39121.

MWA member Cameron Fox won the Epilepsy contest for the best play. I was unable to reach her by the printing deadline. More in the next newsletter.

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The Fifth Annual Award-winning  
**NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION**  
presents

**MISSISSIPPI'S LITERARY HERITAGE:  
BLACK AND WHITE  
AND READ ALL OVER**

June 2-4, 1994  
Natchez, Mississippi

**Lectures and Presentations**

- Dr. Charles Reagan Wilson, The University of Mississippi, Oxford: "Two Centuries of Creativity in Mississippi: Black and White and Read All Over"
- Dr. G. Douglas Inglis, Seville, Spain: "Squeaky Tony, Long and Bony: Anthony Hutchins, the Irascible Tory of 18th-Century Natchez"
- Dr. Robert V. Remini, The University of Illinois, Chicago: "Aaron Burr and His Legendary Mississippi Connections"
- Dr. Ronald L. F. Davis, California State University, Northridge: "The Black Experience in Natchez, 1720-1880"
- Dr. Robert C. Petersen and Dr. Jacquelyn Jackson, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro: "War, Race, and Social Change: Two Perspectives on the Fiction of Stark Young"
- Mrs. Patricia B. Mitchell, Chatham, Virginia: "Good Food, Good Folks, and Good Times: The Role of Southern Foods in Southern Culture"
- Dr. Elizabeth MacNeil Boggess, Natchez, Mississippi: "Kingston and Second Creek: Country Communities"
- Dr. Peggy W. Prensshaw, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge: "'Everybody to Their Own Visioning': Eudora Welty and the State of Letters"
- Dr. Grady McWhiney, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth: "A Mississippian Defends a Nation: Jefferson Davis as Confederate President, 1862"
- Dr. Charles G. Vahlkamp, Centre College, Danville, Kentucky: "An Overview of Two Film Versions of the Famous Novel, *Native Son*"
- Dr. Jerry Ward, Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, Mississippi: "Cinematic Ironies: *Native Son* as Literature and Film"
- Mr. Clifton Taulbert, Tulsa, Oklahoma: "Mississippi Literature as Anthropologist and Futurist"
- Dr. W. Kenneth Holditch, The University of New Orleans: "A Dark, Wide World That You Can Breathe In: William Faulkner, Tennessee Williams, and the Old South"
- Dr. David Sansing, The University of Mississippi, Oxford: "Two Centuries of Newspapers in Mississippi"
- Dr. Julius Eric Thompson, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale: "The Black Press in Mississippi, 1865-1985"
- Mr. Willie Morris, Jackson, Mississippi: "My Great-Grandfather: A 19th-century Mississippi Editor"
- Mr. Madison Davis Lacy, Jr., New York, New York: "The Making of *Black Boy*, a 1994 Mississippi Educational Television Documentary," with Excerpts from the Documentary
- Ms. Julia Wright, Paris, France: "Black Boy's Children"



**Other Celebration Events**

"An Evening with Richard Wright," starring the writer's daughter, Julia Wright, of Paris, France

Mississippi premiere of the play *Prince of the Slaves*

Tours of famous Natchez mansions

Tours of the Museum of the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture

A movie version of Richard Wright's novel, *Native Son*, starring Matt Dillon and Oprah Winfrey

The presentation of the first Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award to Eudora Welty

Exhibits, entertainments, meals, garden parties, and receptions

Book sale and book signing

Genealogy Workshop June 1 and Writing Workshop June 5

\$95 for full package • \$20 for lectures only • Other events from \$10

...

**For tickets, call Natchez Box Office 1-800-862-3259 or (601) 445-0353**

Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College,  
Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and National Park Service

Program partially funded by the Mississippi Humanities Council

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# A great literary production ahead

**W**ell, Natchez is doing it again! Yes, we're taking on another major production.

It never ceases to amaze me how Natchez can generate activities that not only have local, state and national effects but also international ramifications.

As Dr. Cora Norman, executive director of the Mississippi Humanities Council, says, "The Natchez Literary Celebration is one of the best prototypes of a public humanities program we've found in Mississippi. Community people come and benefit from it, and professors clamor for an opportunity to participate."

Thanks to the generosity of the Humanities Council and numerous other major donors, all of the 1994 Natchez Literary Celebration is either very low cost or absolutely free. We invite you to participate in as much of the weekend as possible.

The celebration, set for Thursday through Saturday, features a series of lectures and related events using the theme, "Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over." Lectures will be held at the Natchez Municipal Auditorium, beginning daily at 9 a.m.

The conference is sponsored by the National Park Service, Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

To illustrate how affordable the conference is, lecture tickets cost \$20 for all three days or \$10 per day. A play with garden party at Melrose on Thursday costs \$10; a Kingston-area plantation tour with dinner-on-the-grounds on Friday costs \$20; a five-site Literary Landmark Tour on Saturday costs \$15; and a grand finale reception at Stanton



## Top of the Morning

GWEN MCCALIP  
Natchez Literary Celebration

Hall, also on Sunday, costs \$10.

Interspersed among these events are four absolutely free ones. The first three are at the auditorium, and the fourth is at The Natchezicola Hotel.

One is the showing of the movie, "Native Son," starring Kosciusko native Oprah Winfrey, on Friday at 7:30 p.m. This movie is based on the novel *Native Son*, by Natchez's own Richard Wright.

Two scholars, Charles G. Vahlkamp of Centre College, Danville, Ky., and Jerry Ward of Tougaloo College, will present remarks before and after the movie, and free Coca-Colas and popcorn will be available.

In addition, door prizes, including a dozen copies of the novel, a VCR with film version of the novel and a Walkman with audio version of the novel, will be awarded to 14 lucky people.

Another free event is a book sale and booksigning party on Saturday at noon. About a dozen authors will be on hand, including Willie Morris, author of *North Toward Home* and *New York Days*; Clifton Taulbert, author of *Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored*; Robert V. Remini, author of *Andrew Jackson*; and Julia Wright of Paris, daughter of Richard Wright, signing copies of her father's

novels.

The third free event is a something unique: on Saturday at 7 p.m., Julia Wright will make her first public appearance in Natchez, speaking about her father and his works.

Born in 1942, she has lived in Paris most of her life and has visited Natchez only once before. An accomplished journalist/author/speaker in demand at Harvard and elsewhere, she is completing a biography of her father to be published by Random House.

At that same free Saturday event, Madison Davis Lacy Jr. of New York will discuss an upcoming documentary about Richard Wright's life and present excerpts from it. This documentary, called "Black Boy," is being co-produced by Mississippi Educational Television and the British Broadcasting Corp.

At the end of the evening, Julia Wright will present the first Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award to Eudora Welty, Pulitzer Prize winner and well-known Mississippi literary giant. Because Miss Welty has arthritis which makes traveling difficult for her, she will receive the award in a film clip made in Jackson at her home on May 19.

On Sunday, a post-conference Mississippi Writers Association workshop will take place. The afternoon sessions are free, with the morning and luncheon sessions costing \$20. Featured speaker at lunch will be Natchez's own Greg Iles, author of "Spandan Phoenix." His topic is "How to Make Six Figures on Your First Novel."

Won't you join us at these exciting free and/or very affordable activities? Tickets are available at Natchez Box Office, (601) 445-0353. See you at the Literary Celebration!

■ Gwen McCallip is fund-raising chairman for Natchez Literary Celebration.

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The  
Natchez

# Digest

Community Current Events and Resources

May 1994

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# Natchez Literary Celebration

## June 2-3-4

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Using the theme "Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over," the conference is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the National Park Service. The event is financially assisted by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Emphasis will be on books associated with noted African-Americans and Whites, particularly Natchez's own Richard Wright, author of *Native Son* and *Black Boy*.

A conference highlight will be a lecture by Wright's daughter, Julia Wright, of Paris, France. She will discuss her father's works and afterward will present the first Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award to Mississippi's internationally acclaimed author, Eudora Welty of Jackson, Miss.

During the conference Welty's works will be discussed, as will those by or about other legendary Mississippi figures, including William Faulkner, Tennessee Williams, Willie Morris, Aaron Burr, Andrew Marshall, and Jefferson Davis.

Again this year, William F. Winter of Jackson, Miss., will serve as director of proceedings. Former governor of Mississippi, Winter is longtime president of the Archives and History board of trustees.

Among 19 internationally known lecturers will be the historian Dr. Robert V. Remini of The University of Illinois; Dr. Geady McWhaney of Texas Christian University; Dr. Douglas Inglis of Seville, Spain; Dr. Julian Eric Thompson of Southern Illinois University; and Dr. Charles Reagan Wilson and David Saxing of The University of Mississippi.

Also on the program are Willie Morris of Jackson, Miss., author of *New York Days*; Clifton Taulbert of Tulsa, Okla., author of *Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored*; Patricia Mitchell of Chatham, Va., author of *Soul on Rice*; and Dr. Jerry Ward of Tougaloo (Miss.) College, an expert on Richard Wright.

Tickets for the lecture series are \$20, with optional low cost meals and tours. Information is available by calling Natchez Box Office at (601) 445-0353 or 1-800-862-3259 or by writing Natchez Literary Celebration, P.O. Box 894, Natchez, MS 39121.



Richard Wright

Julia Wright

# Mississippi History

## NEWSLETTER

Volume XXXVI No. 5



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May, 1994

### Natchez Literary Celebration, June 2-4: BLACK & WHITE & READ ALL OVER

The fifth annual Natchez Literary Celebration to be held June 2-4 features lectures, tours of historic homes and sites, a play, a movie, presentation of the first Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award, and special entertainments and parties saluting Mississippi's extraordinary multi-cultural literary heritage, according to Celebration co-chair Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College. Joining Smith as co-chair for the 1994 conference are Gerald Garner, chief of interpretation and visitor services for the Natchez National Historical Park, and James Barnett, Jr., director of the Historic Properties Division of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

Noted regional writers—white and African-Americans—will be the focus of the conference: William Faulkner, Eudora Welty, Tennessee Williams, Natchez's own Richard Wright, and others. Among a dozen internationally known lecturers will be Dr. Robert V. Renni of the University of Illinois at Chicago, who has been "enormously popular" at previous conferences, according to Carolyn Smith. Writers Kenneth Holliday of New Orleans, Willie Morris of Natchez, and Clifton Taulbert of Tulsa, Oklahoma, will participate, as well as Richard Wright's widow, Julia Wright, of Paris, France. Also on tap will be a tour of Natchez sites associated with writers, including Historic Jefferson College; a play about Ibrahim, an African prince who was a slave in 18th century Natchez; the movie

*Native Son* and discussions; a tour of the Kingston-area plantations, and other special events. Information is available about the Celebration by calling Natchez Box Office at (601) 445-0353 or 1-800-862-3259 or by writing Natchez Literary Celebration, P. O. Box 894, Natchez, MS 39121. Co-sponsors of this year's celebration are Copiah-Lincoln Community College, the National Park Service, and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

Eudora Welty (right) celebrated her 85th birthday and the celebration of her new book, *A Writer's Eye: Collected Book Reviews*, edited by Pearl Amelia McHoney (left), at Lemuria McHoney's April 17. *The Writer's Eye*, published by University Press of Mississippi, is available from the Old Capitol Shop at \$27.50 plus \$1.91 sales tax and \$2.50 postage (\$31.93).

A sampling of the many birthday greetings read to gathered fans.

- A bouquet of verses for Eudora
1. Like hope and all things eternal.  
Our Eudora springs eternal.
  2. As true as the cross,  
Caving into focus,  
Eudora, on cue,  
Blooms a rose.
  3. Hail Eudora,  
Search personal  
I'm looking forward  
To your centennial.  
Happy birthday and love.

John Harrison  
April 13, 1994



### Eudora celebrates 85th birthday

Dear Eudora,

Twenty-four years ago, when "Losing Battles" was about to come out, I flew down to Jackson to interview you for *The New Year Times Book Review*. The first surprise was that you insisted on driving out to meet me at the airport, which was not the way a writer of your eminence is supposed to behave. You never did learn how to be a grande dame, and I guess we all might as well give up on that.

But the nicest surprise was that you became my dear friend. We have had such funny, good times over the years, and I wish I were there to celebrate this day with you. Happy birthday, dearest Eudora.

With love,  
Walter Clemons

#### The Natchez Literary NEWSHOUR

Dear Eudora:

April 5, 1994

Of course it is your birthday because everything about you speaks of April. Your language seems to bring words freshly into leaf.

You bring forth characters as subtle and as various as tulips.

You have an attitude to life as poignant as spring blossoms, as affectionate as the April sun, as full of smiling sorrow as the spring rain.

Years is the interest month, ever young, ever new, ever gladdening our hearts. You still look at us as if awestruck, as a child looks, with new eyes, as if you had just as been delivered here, but knowing more about us than we do ourselves.

So, my warmest wishes for your birthday, Eudora—April's lady.

Robin MacNeil

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1994 NLC DRAWS LARGE CROWDS

The 1994 Natchez Literary Celebration, held June 2-4 and sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the National Park Service, drew large crowds again this year.

The most popular sessions were the afternoon of June 3, featuring Mississippi writer Willie Morris; the evening of June 3, featuring a free movie version of Richard Wright's novel, *Native Son*; the morning of June 4, featuring Clifton Taulbert, author of *Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored*; and the evening of June 4, featuring Julia Wright of Paris, daughter of Richard Wright of Natchez, and Dave Lacy of New York, producer of a television documentary about Richard Wright.

Attending all or part of the conference were about 1,500 people, according to co-chairmen Gerry Gaumer of the NPS, Jim Barnett of MDAH and Carolyn Vance Smith of Co-Lin. Theme of the fifth annual conference was "Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over."

"I believe I was more impressed and really deeply moved by the speakers and presenters on this program than I ever have been before," wrote William Winter, former governor of Mississippi and perennial director of proceedings for the NLC. "It is always so refreshing to enjoy the hospitality of Natchez," he wrote.

Dates for the 1995 Celebration have been announced for June 1-3. Next year's theme will be "King Cotton: Its Enduring Influence on the South's Literary Landscape."

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## Young Hawkers!

Dressed as old-time paper boys, young Natchezians Deshaun Curry and Byron Zerby greeted those attending the Natchez Literary Celebration at the City Auditorium.

All reports indicate that this year's NLC was a great success! We salute the efforts of everyone involved in this terrific event.

*DWIGHT photo by Terry Griffith-Stallman*



# SHOWBOAT



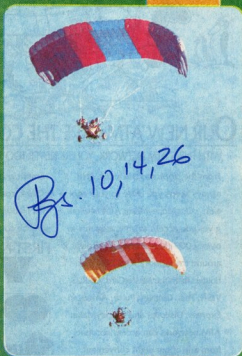
THINGS TO SEE & DO IN THE RIVER CITIES

## FREE!

A Guide To:

- Dining
- Entertainment
- Shopping
- Lodging
- Attractions

## JUNE 1994



THE RIVER CITIES

**Vicksburg**  
**Port Gibson**



**Lorman**  
**Natchez**

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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

HISTORIC

## Natchez

ON THE MISSISSIPPI

### June

#### Natchez Literary Celebration -

##### "Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over."

June 2 - 4. Copiah-Lincoln Community College; MS Dept. of Archives and History; National Park Service. This award winning conference will once again explore the literature, history, and culture of the Lower Mississippi River Valley through lectures and related events. Natchez Literary Celebration, Post Office Box 894, Natchez, MS 39121. For more information call Natchez Box Office at (601) 445-0353 or (800) 862-3259.

#### Adams County Sheriff's Rodeo

June 3 - 4. Two nights of excitement for the entire family. Proceeds buy supplies, such as bulletproof vests, for the Adams County Sheriff's Deputies. Liberty Park, Liberty Road at Seargent Prentiss Drive, Natchez. For more information call (601) 446-6345 or (800) 647-6724.

#### 2nd Annual Bark In The Park Fun Dog Show

June 4. Benefitting the Natchez/Adams County Humane Society. Includes a Fun Walk, Best Dressed, Home Groomed, Best Legs, Most Friendly, Cutest, and Look-A-Like. Grand Village of the Natchez Indians, 400 Jefferson Davis Boulevard. For more information call Ann Mohon at (601) 446-6345 or (800) 647-6724.

#### June Victorian Tour

June 18 - 19. Natchez Pilgrimage Tours, Canal at State streets. For more information, please call (800) 647-6742 or (601) 446-6631.

#### Steamboat Jubilee and Floozie Contest

June 26. as the Mississippi Queen and Delta Queen steamboats dock in Natchez during their annual race to St. Louis, the floozies on board sashay ashore for the wildest contest on the river. Come and cheer on your favorite. 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. No Admission Charge. For more information call (800) 647-6724.

#### Delta Queen Docks

June 2, 7, 15, 22 & 26

#### Mississippi Queen Docks

June 6, 14, 20 & 26

### July



#### Natchez Bicycle Classic

July 8 - 10. Watch the exciting professional and amateur bicycle races, dance the night away to a live band, and cheer on your favorite rider in the Bet Legs Contest, during this weekend of outdoor fun. Races Courses to be determined. For more information call (601) 446-6345 or (800) 647-6724

# Tourism Highlights

Issue 94-6

Natchez Convention & Visitors Bureau

June 1994

## Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over

Presentations are in the Natchez City Auditorium  
207 Jefferson St., unless otherwise noted.

### Thursday, June 2, 1994

- 9:00 a.m. Welcome and Introductions  
Dr. Billy B. Thames, President  
Copiah-Lincoln Community College
- 9:15 a.m. "Two Centuries of Creativity in Mississippi: Black and White and Read All Over"  
Dr. Charles Reagan Wilson
- 10:15 a.m. Refreshments by Copiah-Lincoln
- 10:45 a.m. "Squaky Tony, Long and Bony: Anthony Hutchins, the Irascible Tory of 18th Century Natchez"  
Dr. G. Douglas Inglic Seville, Spain
- 1:30 p.m. "Aaron Burr and His Legendary Mississippi Connections"  
Dr. Robert V. Remini
- 2:30 p.m. Refreshments by Copiah-Lincoln
- 3:00 p.m. "The Black Experience in Natchez, 1720-1880"  
Dr. Ronald L.F. Davis
- 4:00-5:00 p.m. Free Guided Tours of Melrose
- 4:00-6:00 p.m. Free Guided Tours of the Natchez Museum of African-American History and Culture
- 6:30 p.m. *Prince of the Slaves: Premiere of Play, Melrose. Tours of Melrose and Garden Party, Hosted by the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American History and Culture.*

### Friday, June 3, 1994

- 9:00 a.m. "A Mississippian Defends a Nation: Jefferson Davis as Confederate President,"  
Dr. Grady McWhiney
- 10:00 a.m. Refreshments by Copiah-Lincoln
- 10:30 a.m. "War, Race and Social Change: Two Perspectives on the Fiction of Stark Young"  
Dr. Robert C. Petersen and  
Dr. Jacquelyn Jackson
- 1:00 p.m. "The Fourth Estate: Newspapers as Social Chronicles"
- "Two Centuries of Newspapers in Mississippi"  
Dr. David Sansing
  - "The Black Press in Mississippi, 1865 - 1985"  
Dr. Julius Eric Thompson
  - "My Ancestor, George Harper, Editor of the Hinds County Gazette"  
Mr. Willie Morris
- 2:30 p.m. Refreshments by Copiah-Lincoln
- 3:00 p.m. "Good Food, Good Folks, and Good Times: The Role of Southern Foods in Southern Culture."  
Mrs. Patricia B. Mitchell
- 3:45 p.m. "Kington and Second Creek: Country Communities"  
Dr. Elizabeth MacNeil Hoggess
- 4:15-7:15 p.m. "Kington and Second Creek: Anthony Hutchins' Neighborhood"  
Tours of Woodstock, Cherry Grove, and Hillside Plantation. Refreshments and Dinner on the Grounds.
- 7:30 p.m. "Let's Go to the Movies"  
• "An Overview of Two Film Versions of *Native Son*" -- Dr. Charles G. Vahlkamp  
• *Native Son: A Showing of the 1987 Film, Starring Matt Dillon and Oprah Winfrey*  
• "Cinematic Iconies: *Native Son* as Literature and Film" -- Dr. Jerry Ward

### Saturday, June 4, 1994

- 9:00 a.m. "A Dark, Wide World That You Can Breathe In: William Faulkner, Tennessee Williams, and the Old South"  
Dr. W. Kenneth Holdich
- 10:00 a.m. "Everybody to Their Own Visioning: Eudora Welty and the State of Letters"  
Dr. Peggy W. Preshaw
- 11:00 a.m. Refreshments by Copiah-Lincoln
- 11:15 p.m. "Mississippi Literature as Anthropologist and Futurist"  
Mr. Clifton Taulbert
- 12:00 p.m. Book Sale and Booksigning Party (Free)
- 2:00-5:00 p.m. "Literary Landmark Tour" A Tour of Sites Associated with Books and Authors:
- William Johnson House (Tour Stop)
  - Andrew Manship Family Home (Tour Stop)
  - Richard Wright Family Neighborhood
  - Lansdowne (Tour Stop)
  - Mount Repose (Tour Stop)
  - Foster Mound
  - Historic Jefferson College (Tour Stop with refreshments hosted by Mississippi Heritage Trust)
- 7:00 p.m. "An Evening with Richard Wright" (Free)
- "The Making of *Black Boy*, a 1994 METV Documentary" with excerpts from the Documentary -- Mr. Madison Davis Lacy, Jr.
  - "Black Boy's Children" -- Ms. Julia Wright
  - Presentation of the First Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award -- Ms. Wright
- 9:00 p.m. "Mississippi: It Leaves a Great Taste in Your Mouth" A Gala Reception at Stanton Hall.

Tickets for events cost from \$10 to \$20.  
They may be purchased by calling  
Natchez Box Office  
(601) 445-0353 or 1-800-862-3259.

The Natchez Literary Celebration is  
Sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community  
College, Mississippi Department of Archives  
and History, and National Park Service.

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## Guide to historic Natchez

## Literary festival celebrates state's cultural diversity

**M**ississippi's extraordinary, multi-cultural literary legacy will be explored June 2-4 through a series of lectures, guided tours of related historic sites, music, drama and gala social events during the fifth annual Natchez Literary Celebration.

This award-winning international conference will take place in the historic river city of Natchez, home of many writers and the inspiration of numerous others.

Using the theme "Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over," the conference is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the National Park Service. The event is financially assisted by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Emphasis will be on books associated with noted African-Americans and whites, particularly Natchez's own Richard Wright, author of "Native Son" and "Black Boy."

A conference highlight will be a lecture by Wright's daughter, Julia Wright of Paris, France. She will discuss her father's works and afterward will present the first Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award to Mississippi's internationally acclaimed author Eudora Welty of Jackson.



Julia Wright

During the conference, Welty's works will be discussed, as will those by or about other legendary Mississippi figures, including William Faulkner, Tennessee Williams, Willie Morris, Aaron Barr, Andrew Marshak and Jefferson Davis.

Again this year, William F. Winter of Jackson will serve as director of proceedings. Former governor of Mississippi, Winter is the longtime president of the Archives and History board of trustees.



Eudora Welty

U.S. Sen. Thad Cochran, R-Miss., will conduct the opening for the conference.

Among 19 internationally-known lecturers will be the historians Dr. Robert V. Remini of The University of Illinois; Dr. Grady McWhiney of Texas Christian University; Dr. Douglas Ingalls of Seville, Spain; Dr. Julius Eric Thompson of Southern Illinois University; and Dr. Charles Reagan Wilson and Dr. David Searing of The University of Mississippi.

Also on the program are Willie Morris of Jackson, author of "New York Days"; Clifton Taulbert of Tulsa, Okla., author of "Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored"; Patricia Mitchell of Chatham, Va., author of "Soul on Rice"; and Dr. Jerry Ward of Tougaloo College, an expert on Richard Wright.

Tickets for the lecture series are \$20, with optional, low-cost meals and tours. Information is available by calling Natchez Pilgrimage Box Office at 446-6631.

The schedule of lectures includes:

■ Thursday, June 2, 9 a.m.: Welcome and introductions.

■ Thursday, June 2, 9:15 a.m.: "Two Centuries of Creativity in Mississippi: Black and White and Read All Over," Dr. Charles Reagan Wilson, the University of Mississippi.

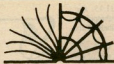
■ Thursday, June 2, 10:45 a.m.: "Squaky, Tony, Long and Bony: Anthony Hatchins, the insoluble Tony of 18th Century Natchez," Dr. G. Douglas Ingalls, Seville, Spain.

■ Thursday, June 2, 3 p.m.: "The Black Experience in Natchez 1720-1880," Dr. Ronald L.F. Davis, California State University, Northridge.

■ Thursday, June 2, 6:30 p.m.:

See LITERARY, Page 3

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The Fifth Annual Award -winning  
**NATCHEZ LITERARY  
CELEBRATION**

Presents

**MISSISSIPPI'S LITERARY HERITAGE**  
**Black and White and Read All Over**

Thursday, June 2, 1994

9:00 a.m. "Two Centuries of Creativity in Mississippi Black and White and Read All Over" - Dr. Charles Reagan Wilson  
10:45 a.m. "Squaky Tony, Long and Bony: Anthony Hutchins, the Irascible Tory of 18th Century Natchez" - Dr. G. Douglas Inglis  
1:30 p.m. "Aaron Burr and His Legendary Mississippi Connections" - Dr. Robert V. Remini  
3:00 p.m. "The Black Experience in Natchez 1720-1880" - Dr. Ronald L.F. Davis  
4:00-5:00 p.m. Free Guided Tours of Melrose, Historic Landmark  
4:00-6:00 p.m. Free Guided Tours of The Museum of the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture  
6:30 p.m. Premiere of the play -Prince of the Slaves (\$10 Ticket)

Friday, June 3, 1994

9:00 a.m. "A Mississippian Defends a Nation: Jefferson Davis as Confederate President, 1862" - Dr. Grady McWhiney  
10:30 a.m. "War, Race, and Social Change: Two Perspectives on the Fiction of Stark Young" - Dr. Robert C. Petersen and Dr. Jacquelyn Jackson  
1:00 p.m. "The Fourth Estate: Newspapers as Social Chronicles" - Dr. David Sansing, Dr. Julius Eric Thompson, Willie Morris  
3:00 p.m. "Good Food, Good Folks, and Good Times: The Role of Southern Foods in Southern Culture" - Mrs. Patricia Mitchell  
3:45 p.m. "Kinston and Second Creek: Country Communities" - Dr. Elizabeth MacNeil Boggess  
4:15-7:15 p.m. "Kinston and Second Creek: Anthony Hutchins' Neighborhood".  
Plantation Tour with Dinner (\$20 Ticket)  
7:30 p.m. "Let's Go to the Movies: Richard Wright's Native Son" (Free to the public)

Saturday, June 4, 1994

9:00 a.m. "A Dark, Wide World That You Can Breathe In: William Faulkner, Tennessee Williams, and the Old South" - Dr. W. Kenneth Holditch  
10:00 a.m. "Everybody to Their Own Visioning: Eudora Welty and the State of Letters" - Dr. Peggy W. Prenshaw  
11:15 a.m. "Mississippi Literature as Anthropologist and Futurist" - Mr. Clifton Taulbert  
12:00 p.m. Book Sale and Booksigning Party Honoring All Lecturers (Free to the Public)  
2:00-5:00 p.m. "Literary Landmark Tour" - of five historic properties (\$15 Ticket Needed)  
7:00 p.m. "An Evening with Richard Wright" (Free to the public)  
9:00 p.m. "Mississippi It Leaves A Great Taste in Your Mouth" Reception at Stanton Hall (\$10 Ticket)

For Tickets Call: NATCHEZ BOX OFFICE  
445-0353 OR 1-800-862-3259

Lectures June 2, 3 & 4.....\$20  
Lectures One Day Only.....\$10

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## Guide to historic Natchez

## Literary

Continued from Page 2

"Prince of Slaves," The premiere of a play about Ibrahima, a royal slave, and his Natchez master, to be presented on the rear gallery of Melrose.

■ Friday, June 3, 9 a.m.: "A Mississippian Defends a Nation: Jefferson Davis as Confederate President 1862." Dr. Grady McWhiney, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth.

■ Friday, June 3, 10:30 a.m.: "War, Race and Social Change: Two Perspectives on the Fiction of Stark Young." Dr. Robert C. Petersen and Dr. Jacquelyn Jackson, Middle Tennessee State University.

■ Friday, June 3, 1 p.m.: "The Fourth Estate: Newspapers as Social Chronicles" including "Two Centuries of Newspapers in Mississippi" by Dr. David Sansing, the University of Mississippi; "The Black Press in Mississippi, 1865-1985" by Dr. Julius Eric Thompson, Southern Illinois University; and "My Ancestor, George Harper, Editor of the Hinds County, Mississippi, Gazette," by Willie Morris of Jackson.

■ Friday, June 3, 3 p.m.: "Good Food, Good Folks and Good Times: The Role of Southern Foods in Southern Culture," Patricia B. Mitchell of Chatham, Va.

■ Friday, June 3, 3:45 p.m.: "Kings-ton and Second Creek: Country Communities," Dr. Elizabeth MacNeil Boggs, Natchez.

■ Friday, June 3, 4:15 to 7:15 p.m.: "Kings-ton and Second Creek: Anthony Hatchin's Neighborhood" tours available, including dinner on the grounds at Kingston Methodist Church.

■ Friday, June 3, 7:30 p.m.: "Let's Go to the Movies: Richard Wright's Native Son" including "An Overview of Two Film Versions of the Famous Novel, Native Son": Dr. Charles G. Vahlkamp, Centre College; "Native Son: A Showing of the 1987 Film, Starring Matt Dillon and Oprah Winfrey"; "Cinematic Inquiries: Native Son as Literature and Film." Dr. Jerry Ward, Tougaloo College.

■ Saturday, June 4, 9 a.m.: "A Dark, Wide World That You Can Become In: William Faulkner, Tennessee Williams and the Old South," Dr. W. Kenneth Holditch, the University of New Orleans.

■ Saturday, June 4, 10 a.m.: "Everybody to Their Own Visioning: Eudora Welty and the State of Letters." Dr. Petty W. Frenshaw, Louisiana State University.



The Natchez Democrat/David Bundy

**SHARING LITERARY HERITAGE:** Mary Toles, president of the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture, poses with students Katie Bailey and Cresa Merritt at Melrose, centerpiece of the Natchez National Historical Park. Toles' group operates a museum, and tours of the center will be included during the literary celebration.

■ Saturday, June 4, 11:15 a.m.: "Mississippi Literate as Anthropologist and Futurist": Clifton Taulbert, Tulsa, Okla.

■ Saturday, June 4, 2 to 5 p.m.: "Literary Landmark Tour" A tour of sites associated with books and authors, including The William Johnson House, the Andrew Marshalk Family Home, Richard Wright Family Neighborhood, Landsdowne, Mount Repose, Foster Mound, Historic Jefferson College.

■ Saturday, June 4, 7 p.m.: "An Evening with Richard Wright" including "The Making of Black Boy, a 1994 Mississippi Educational Television Documentary," with excerpts from the documentary, by Madison Davis Lacy Jr.; "Black Boy's Children" by Jelia Wright of Paris; and presentation to the first Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award.

■ Saturday, June 4, 9 p.m.: "Mississippi: It Leaves a Great Taste in Your Mouth," a gala reception at Stanton Hall.

All events, unless otherwise noted, will take place at the Natchez City Auditorium. Ticket prices vary according to events, and some are free to the public.

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# The Natchez Democrat

# OPINION

Wednesday, June 1, 1994

## Library packs a lot into June

**J**une will be an exciting month at the Judge George W. Armstrong Library. New activities and programs are "bursting out all over."

One of the events to be highlighted occurs today. The library will host a genealogical workshop featuring Dr. G. Douglas Inglis of Spain.

Dr. Inglis will be in Natchez in conjunction with the Natchez Literary Celebration. He has been researching colonial Natchez during the Spanish era and developing a computer database for the library which contains information on the period.

The workshop is jointly sponsored by the library, the Natchez Historical Society, the order of the First Families of Mississippi and the Natchez Literary Celebration.

Workshop space is limited and pre-registration is necessary.

On June 10, the summer reading program for children will begin. This year's theme is "Cool Kids, Hot Books."

Our children's clerk, Tanya Henry, has a full six weeks of fun and activities planned. The summer reading program gives children from 3 years of age through those who have



### Top of the Morning

DONNA JANKEY  
Armstrong Library

just completed sixth grade a chance to keep their reading skills active over the summer months.

On each library visit a child can report his books, take part in team activities and perhaps win a prize. Special storytelling sessions will be on Tuesday mornings at 10:30. Fun activities and speakers will be on Thursday mornings at 10:30. The dates for each event will be posted at the library.

The final activity program of the summer will be the annual worm race.

All summer programs are free, and children can come in anytime on June 10 or on the following days to register for the program.

Thanks to generous gifts from the Krewe of Kilarney and the Audubon Society, the library

has many new, colorful, and exciting books for the children to enjoy.

June also will be exciting at the library for another reason: we gradually phase in our new automation system. Patrons will be able to try out the new "searching" terminals by the end of the month.

These will replace the current card catalogs and provide instant information about the library's books and other materials. The new circulation system will help the library efficiently perform check out and check in duties and effectively track overdue books.

To use the system, each library patron must re-register for a new automation card. Many, many patrons already have done so and will be switched over to the new system easily.

Some patrons still need to come in and fill out the new registration sheets and still other patrons need to find and return overdue materials and clear their library records so they can be switched to the new system.

Please call the library at 445-8862 for more information about any of the programs. Come see the new changes and enjoy your library.

■ Donna Jankey is director of the Judge George W. Armstrong Library.

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## The Natchez Literary Celebration

Sponsored by  
Copiah-Lincoln Community College,  
Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and  
The National Park Service

June 1, 1994

- \* Natches National Historical Park
- \* Natchez Trace Parkway

Post Office Box 894  
Natchez, MS 39121-0894  
(601) 446-5874  
FAX (601) 446-9967

Dear Lecturer or Other VIP:

Welcome to Natchez! We're so glad you're here! I'd like to give you some information concerning your stay in Natchez.

In your packet are your nametag, tickets, program booklet with map, and other information. Please go through the packet carefully. Your nametag will serve as your ticket into the lecture hall. Please wear it daily.

Please see program booklet for the schedule of lectures and other Celebration events. Certain meals and other activities are open to the public to buy into; some are private, honoring you. Here is the lineup. I hope to see you at everything!

### Wednesday, June 1

\* 6:30 p.m. Private seated dinner at Barnes House, 705 Washington Street, home of Bob and Bettina Barnes.

### Thursday, June 2

\* 11:45 a.m. Private seated luncheon at Liza's Restaurant, 657 South Canal Street, overlooking the river. A Copiah-Lincoln bus will provide shuttle service for you from the Municipal Auditorium and back. You are welcomed to take your own car, if you prefer.

\* 6:30 p.m. Premiere of the one-act play, *Prince of the Slaves*, with garden party and tour of Melrose afterward, an event limited to 300 people. If you need a ride, please meet the Copiah-Lincoln bus at the Municipal Auditorium at 6 p.m. sharp. Melrose is on Melrose-Montebello Parkway. Rain site for the play is the auditorium.

\* After the reception, around 8 p.m. Private sunset picnic at Evans-Bontura, 107 South Broadway, overlooking the river. This house is owned by H. Hal Garner and Dr. Harold Hawkins. The Copiah-Lincoln bus will go from Melrose to Evans-Bontura following the garden party. After supper the bus will return to the auditorium for you to get your car.

### Friday, June 3

\* 11:45 a.m. Seated luncheon at the Carriage House Restaurant on the grounds of Stanton Hall. Please stroll to the restaurant, one block from the auditorium. Joining you will be participants in Copiah-Lincoln's Elderhostel and Elderhappening programs. Special entertainment after lunch is planned.

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Friday, June 3, continued

\* 4:15-7:15 p.m. Plantation tour with old-fashioned "dinner-on-the-grounds" at Kingston Methodist Church, an event limited to 300 people. Please see program booklet for sites to be visited. If you wish a ride in the Copiah-Lincoln bus or wish to follow the bus in your car, the bus will depart promptly from the auditorium at 4:15 p.m. The bus will return to the auditorium by 7:15 p.m. in time for the movie, *Native Son*, and commentaries at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 4

\* 12 noon. Booksigning party at the auditorium honoring numerous lecturers. If you are listed in the program booklet as an honoree, please go to the stage of the auditorium where a table and chair will be set up for you.

\* 12:45 p.m. Private buffet luncheon at Magnolia Hall, 215 South Pearl Street. Joining you will be about 70 members of Humanities Councils in 15 Southern states, in Natchez for the Celebration with Dr. Cora Norman, executive director of the Mississippi Humanities Council. A private 15-passenger van will make several trips from the auditorium to Magnolia Hall, beginning at 12:30 p.m., if you wish a ride.

\* 2-5 p.m. Literary Landmark Tour to five special historic sites: William Johnson House, Marshchalk Family Home, Lansdowne, Mount Repose, and Historic Jefferson College. If you wish a ride, the Copiah-Lincoln bus and the van will leave Magnolia Hall at 1:55 p.m. Onboard the bus will be about a dozen spouses of Copiah-Lincoln board members. The board is meeting in Natchez Saturday afternoon and will attend Celebration events Saturday night. The bus and van will return to the auditorium and/or The Natchez Eola Hotel by 5 p.m.

\* 5:30 p.m. Private cocktail party and seated garden supper at Myrtle Bank, 408 North Pearl Street, home of Tom and Joan Gandy. Joining you will be Copiah-Lincoln trustees and their spouses. You may stroll to the auditorium for the 7 p.m. "Evening with Richard Wright."

\* 9 p.m. Reception at Stanton Hall, honoring all lecturers. This will be a large party with live music, food, wine, and a cash bar.

If you cannot do all of the above, just do what you can! We want you to enjoy the conference and enjoy yourselves. If you need to rehearse your lecture or otherwise need me, please call me at home, 445-5955. My assistant at the office is Pat Cater; she may be reached during the day at 446-5874. See you this week!

Sincerely yours,

*Carolyn*

Carolyn Vance Smith, NLC Co-chairman

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# The Natchez Literary Celebration

Sponsored by  
Copiah-Lincoln Community College,  
Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and  
The National Park Service

- Natchez National Historical Park
- Natchez Trace Parkway

June 1, 1994

Post Office Box 894  
Natchez, MS 39121-0894  
(601) 446-5874  
FAX (601) 446-9967

The co-sponsors of the fifth annual Natchez Literary Celebration are grateful to the many generous donors who have given money, goods, services, and time to help make the event possible. Thank you!

## 1994 DONORS

Special recognition goes to the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council. The Council's outright funding as well as cash-match funding equal is a total of \$31,947, the largest grant awarded in Mississippi this year.

Other donors are:

Adams County Board of Supervisors  
Judge George W. Armstrong Public Library  
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Eastern National Park & Monument Association, Natchez  
Eastern National Park & Monument Association, Tupelo  
Elderhostel  
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Fry Realty  
Historic Natchez Foundation  
Historic Sites: Carmel Baptist Church, Historic  
Jefferson College, Kingston Methodist Church,  
and Natchez Museum of Afro-American  
History and Culture  
Houses of Natchez: The Briers, Burch Family Home,  
The Burn, Peter Buttross Home, Cherry Grove,  
Dorsey House, Dunleith, High Point, Hillside,  
Gov. Holmes House, Griffith-McComas House,  
The Guest House Historic Hotel, William Johnson  
House, Lamsdowne, Linden, Marschalk Family Home,  
McLaurin Family Home, Melrose, Monmouth, Mount  
Repose, Pleasant Hill, Shields Town House,  
Stanton Hall, Texada, Woodstock  
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Natchez-Adams Chamber of Commerce  
Natchez Association for the Preservation  
of Afro-American Culture  
Natchez Civitan Club  
Natchez Coca-Cola Company  
Natchez Convention and Visitor Bureau  
The Natchez Democrat  
The Natchez Eola Hotel  
Natchez Garden Club  
Natchez Historical Society  
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Natchez Regional Medical Center  
Natchez Trace Parkway  
Don G. Ogden, Attorney at Law  
The Order of the First Families of Mississippi  
Phi Beta Lambda, Copiah-Lincoln Community College  
Pilgrimage Garden Club  
Riverbend Catering  
St. Mary's Catholic Church  
Amelia Salmon, Architect  
Stahlman Lumber Company  
William and Betty Stewart Historic Collection  
Truly, Smith, Latham and Kuehnle, Attorneys at Law  
United Mississippi Bank  
Valley Innovative Management Services, Inc.  
Wal-Mart

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# Southern cooking

Literary festival speaker  
explores food's unique  
role in southern lives

By **TERRI TABOR**  
The Natchez Democrat

**S**omething is always cooking in Patricia Mitchell's kitchen; and she will bring some of her recipes and food philosophy to Natchez Friday as part of the fifth annual Natchez Literary Celebration.

Mitchell, author of 40 cookbooks, will present a lecture titled "Good Food, Good Folks, and Good Times: The Role of Southern Foods in Southern Culture" at 3 p.m. in the Natchez Municipal Auditorium. Tickets are available by calling Natchez Pilgrimage Box Office.

Although Mitchell would not reveal the meaning behind the title of her lecture, she did offer a hint. "Southern

food is intricately woven into the fabrics in southern culture in that so many of our southern social and some church events have food as an important aspect," Mitchell said. "Whenever people interact in the South, we manage to get food involved."



Mitchell

When Southerners do get together, Mitchell notes that fried chicken, mash-potatoes, string beans, candied yams, hot bread (which is her specialty) and dessert would likely be part of the meal.

According to Mitchell, northern food is lacking. "In the North, I think they tend to serve foods asked or unadorned with all their parts. The classic New England boiled dinner is an example of this. It's just bare vegetables and a hunk of meat.

"The southern food has more mystery and magic," Mitchell said. "(Take) gumbo for instance. Who but the cooks know what ingredients that go into that wonderful, delectable thick soup?"

Mitchell has a message she hopes to get across to her audience in Natchez. "I want to encourage people to preserve the traditional southern foods so that somewhere in the homes or restaurants people will still be preparing traditional southern foods just as our ancestors did 300 years ago," Mitchell said.

Mitchell feels that people need encouragement to preserve the traditional southern food. "With so

many men and women working outside (the home), they don't tend to cook, (and) some people are scared of southern food because it's not nutritious. But I don't believe that is true," Mitchell said.

Southern recipes can be modified by putting in less salt, fat and sugar, she said. Mitchell practices what she preaches; she has written two cookbooks, "Bless Your Heart," volumes I and II which contain recipes low in fat and in cholesterol.

Mitchell said she has not been writing cookbooks or cooking all her life. "I didn't learn to cook until I was married. I'm a 'Janey Come Lately' to the cooking scene," Mitchell said.

The Chatham, Va., resident recalls that she got her cooking start in New Orleans. Mitchell said there she and her husband published a magazine called *The Community Standard*, in which Mitchell wrote a monthly food column.

After receiving crash cooking courses from New Orleans chefs, Mitchell decided to write a cookbook to sell in a retail store that she and her husband also owned.

However, Mitchell never finished her cookbook, for fate placed her and her family in Chatham. It wasn't until almost a decade later when she and her husband opened a bed and breakfast, that Mitchell resumed her cookbook "project."

Mitchell said they not only served breakfast but also dinner at their inn. "People were interested in my recipes. My daughter suggested I put my recipes in a booklet for our guests and that is how my food and cookbook career began," she said.

Mitchell was discovered by one of her guests, a director of a historic site, who said he could sell her cookbooks in his center.

Now Mitchell has sold more than 200,000 cookbooks which are featured all over the country in historic sites and shops including the Riverboat Gift Shop and the National Park Visitor's Center in Natchez.

Mitchell looks forward to returning to Natchez. "I love the beautiful mansions," she said. Mitchell added that what stood out in her mind was during her last visit she went under the hill and looked out over the bridge as the sun was setting and the city lights were beaming and the crescent moon and Venus were in view. "It was glorious," she said.

# Southern cooking

WEDNESDAY, June 1, 1994



Literary festival speaker  
explores food's unique  
role in southern lives

**SHARING HISTORY:** Author Patricia Mitchell's cookbooks vary in topic, but they all explore the cultural impact of different foods, particularly southern foods.

The Matches Democrat Illustrations/Kevin Cook

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Tiss-Lou

# CALENDAR

## of Events

Information provided by the Natchez Convention and Visitors Bureau

JUNE, 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>Annual Conference</b>  <b>United Negro College Fund</b>            10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.            at the Sheraton Hotel, 1000            14th St. N.W.            For more information, call            527-1234.</p> <p><b>Meeting at a Washington</b>  <b>Washington Redskins</b> in            the home of the <b>San Francisco</b>  <b>49ers</b>, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.            at the <b>San Francisco</b> <b>49ers</b>            stadium, 4900 <b>San Francisco</b>            Blvd., <b>San Francisco</b>, <b>Calif.</b>            For more information, call            527-1234.</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>Annual Conference</b>  <b>United Negro College Fund</b>            10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.            at the Sheraton Hotel, 1000            14th St. N.W.            For more information, call            527-1234.</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p><b>Annual Conference</b>  <b>United Negro College Fund</b>            10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.            at the Sheraton Hotel, 1000            14th St. N.W.            For more information, call            527-1234.</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>Annual Conference</b>  <b>United Negro College Fund</b>            10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.            at the Sheraton Hotel, 1000            14th St. N.W.            For more information, call            527-1234.</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p><b>Annual Conference</b>  <b>United Negro College Fund</b>            10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.            at the Sheraton Hotel, 1000            14th St. N.W.            For more information, call            527-1234.</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>Annual Conference</b>  <b>United Negro College Fund</b>            10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.            at the Sheraton Hotel, 1000            14th St. N.W.            For more information, call            527-1234.</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p><b>Annual Conference</b>  <b>United Negro College Fund</b>            10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.            at the Sheraton Hotel, 1000            14th St. N.W.            For more information, call            527-1234.</p>
<p><b>12</b></p> <p><b>Annual Conference</b>  <b>United Negro College Fund</b>            10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.            at the Sheraton Hotel, 1000            14th St. N.W.            For more information, call            527-1234.</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p><b>Annual Conference</b>  <b>United Negro College Fund</b>            10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.            at the Sheraton Hotel, 1000            14th St. N.W.            For more information, call            527-1234.</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p><b>Annual Conference</b>  <b>United Negro College Fund</b>            10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.            at the Sheraton Hotel, 1000            14th St. N.W.            For more information, call            527-1234.</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p><b>Annual Conference</b>  <b>United Negro College Fund</b>            10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.            at the Sheraton Hotel, 1000            14th St. N.W.            For more information, call            527-1234.</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p><b>Annual Conference</b>  <b>United Negro College Fund</b>            10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.            at the Sheraton Hotel, 1000            14th St. N.W.            For more information, call            527-1234.</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p><b>Annual Conference</b>  <b>United Negro College Fund</b>            10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.            at the Sheraton Hotel, 1000            14th St. N.W.            For more information, call            527-1234.</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p><b>Annual Conference</b>  <b>United Negro College Fund</b>            10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.            at the Sheraton Hotel, 1000            14th St. N.W.            For more information, call            527-1234.</p>

THE CLARION-LEDGER ■ JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI



## JANET HARRISON ENGLISH

Food Editor  
The Clarion-Ledger

# Patricia Mitchell fills volumes with rich food history

Patricia Mitchell is a Southern lady... when she wants to be. Like when you ask her age. "A Southern lady doesn't tell her age."

Then she lapses into '90s candor, revealing that she is still in the child-bearing years.

Mitchell also squeezes out of the old Southern lady's corseted mentality when it comes to food.

Her mother was raised by her grandmother "and she was a Victorian lady and didn't have to do much of her own work."

Her mother, in turn, raised Mitchell that "a proper lady doesn't deal with food. It's kind of common, too physical, too carnal."

Maybe that's why Mitchell is taste-buds deep in food history, preparation and writing.

Among her dozens of slender books: *Cooking for the Cause: Confederate Recipes, Food Anecdotes; Yanks, Rebels, Rats & Rations: Scratching for Food in Civil War Prison Camps; Cooking in the Young Republic: 1780-1850; and My Heart's in Louisiana But My Supermarket Isn't*.

Keep this one in mind, too. "Good Food, Good Folks, Good Times: The Role of Southern Food in Southern Culture" is the topic Mitchell will savor at 3 p.m. Friday at Natchez Municipal Auditorium during the Natchez Literary Celebration. Tickets are \$10 a day or \$20 for three days. A three-house tour and dinner on the grounds follows Mitchell's talk (\$20).



Mitchell

## Learning by doing

Mitchell's marketing niche is a tight one, and how she fell into it is to see serendipity at work.

After she and her husband, Henry, eloped, they moved to New Orleans. Like most new wives, Mitchell found it was time she learned how to cook and taught herself.

In the early '70s, she wrote restaurant features for a French Quarter paper.

For a total of five years they lived in New Orleans and Biloxi, where her husband was stationed at Keesler Air Force Base.

"We got very acclimated and enthralled with the food of the Deep South and we haven't changed yet. We've kept more of that style of eating."

In 1985, the Mitchells moved back to her native Virginia and bought a 125-year-old house in Chatham that they converted into a B & B. At their daughter Sarah's insistence, Mitchell wrote down the recipes she served to guests, who became her first customers.

Then a family friend, Patrick Daily, who was director of Patrick Henry's home Red Hill, suggested period cookbooks for historic sites.

Now Mitchell's books are in shops and historic sites in 48 states.

"I think the situation is there is a lot of information out there, but it's somewhat inaccessible. It's in documents, letters and diaries," her husband says. Some of her works are synopses of existing research, while others are her work alone. The goal, he says, was to focus on certain time periods and keep the packaging small and inexpensive.

## Digging deep

Her most difficult book to research was *French Cooking in Early America: 1500s to 1700s*. "I'm a Francophile myself... I can trace my ancestry back to the French Huguenots... I don't have a strong sweet tooth, but I found out in my research that French people do not."

Another tough topic was *Soul on Rice: African Influences on American Cooking* "cause I knew experientially, but I wanted to be able to find more of the facts, say what the slaves were eating here after they came over on the ships."

Using interlibrary loans at her local library she has "access to practically all the information in the world."

Mitchell has more pies than she has fingers to put in them. Currently she's researching: a contemporary cookbook on soups and breads; a historical and contemporary work on refreshments; a second outing at Victorian teas; and the history of and recipes for apples.

Janet Harrison English's column appears Wednesday. To contact her, call 961-7058.

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**B.B. HOSCH AND JUDGE DAVID BRAMLETTE IN DEEP DISCUSSION AT BARNES HOUSE .**



**DR. WILLIAM DURRETT, SENATOR THAD COCHRAN, AND DR. ROBERT REMINI ENJOY "SOCIAL HOUR" BEFORE DINNER.**

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**MRS. WILLIAM WINTER & MR. & MRS. WALTER SALMON ARE JOINED BY THEIR HOST, DR. BOB BARNES.**



**DR. & MRS. ROBERT BARNES HOSTED A LOVELY NLC DINNER PARTY AT THEIR HISTORIC HOME ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 1994.**

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# 1994 Natchez Literary Celebration

*"Mississippi's Literary Heritage:  
Black and White and Read All Over"*

## LECTURE SERIES

**THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY, JUNE 2-4**

Please present this ticket at the registration desk at the Natchez Municipal Auditorium to exchange for name tag and information packet.



The Fifth Annual Award-winning  
**NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION**  
Natchez, Mississippi  
Presents

## **MISSISSIPPI'S LITERARY HERITAGE: BLACK AND WHITE AND READ ALL OVER**

June 2-4, 1994

Featuring

- Lectures by internationally known scholars and writers on Mississippi's history, literature, people, and events
- Related field trips and tours of historic houses
- Premiere of a play about Prince Ibrahima, an African slave in Natchez
- Excerpts from Mississippi ETV documentary about Natchez author Richard Wright
- Showing and discussion of a film version of Richard Wright's *Native Son*
- Workshops, exhibits, and autograph party
- Presentation of the first Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award to Eudora Welty
- Gala receptions, garden parties, and meals

\*\*\*

Fee for lectures only \$20  
Total fee for lectures, tours,  
meals, and parties: \$75

FOR INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION FORM,  
PLEASE CALL OR WRITE:

**Natchez Box Office**

(601) 445-0353

P.O. Box 1264

1 800-862-3259 Natchez, MS 39121-1264

Sponsored by  
Copiah-Lincoln Community College,  
Mississippi Department  
of Archives and History,  
and National Park Service.

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The Fifth Annual Award-winning  
**NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION**  
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 HERITAGE:  
 BLACK AND WHITE  
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- Workshops, exhibits, and autograph party
- Presentation of the first Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award to a Mississippi writer
- Gala receptions, garden parties, and meals

Fee for lectures only \$20  
 Total fee for lectures, tours,  
 meals, and parties: \$75

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 Mississippi Department  
 of Archives and History,  
 and National Park Service.

Assisted by Mississippi Humanities Council

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THE CITY AUDITORIUM IS THE PLACE TO BE FOR THE '94 NLC, JUNE 2-4.



The Natchez Literary Celebration

**Carolyn Vance Smith**

Co-chairman

Natchez, Mississippi

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The Fifth Annual Award-winning  
**NATCHEZ LITERARY CELEBRATION**  
presents

**MISSISSIPPI'S LITERARY HERITAGE:  
BLACK AND WHITE  
AND READ ALL OVER**

June 2-4, 1994  
Natchez, Mississippi

**Lectures and Presentations**

- Dr. Charles Reagan Wilson, The University of Mississippi, Oxford: "Two Centuries of Creativity in Mississippi: Black and White and Read All Over"
- Dr. G. Douglas Inglis, Seville, Spain: "Squeaky Tony, Long and Bony: Anthony Hutchins, the Irascible Tory of 18th Century Natchez"
- Dr. Robert V. Remini, The University of Illinois, Chicago: "Aaron Burr and His Legendary Mississippi Connections"
- Dr. Ronald L. F. Davis, California State University, Northridge: "The Black Experience in Natchez, 1720-1880"
- Dr. Robert C. Petersen and Dr. Jacquelyn Jackson, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro: "War, Race, and Social Change: Two Perspectives on the Fiction of Stark Young"
- Mrs. Patricia B. Mitchell, Chatham, Virginia: "Good Food, Good Folks, and Good Times: The Role of Southern Foods in Southern Culture"
- Dr. Elizabeth MacNeil Boggess, Natchez, Mississippi: "Ringston and Second Creek: Country Communities"
- Dr. Peggy W. Prenshaw, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge: "Everybody to Their Own Visioning: Eudora Welty and the State of Letters"
- Dr. Grady McWhiney, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth: "A Mississippian Defends a Nation: Jefferson Davis as Confederate President, 1862"
- Dr. Charles G. Vahlkamp, Centre College, Danville, Kentucky: "An Overview of Two Film Versions of the Famous Novel, *Native Son*"
- Dr. Jerry Ward, Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, Mississippi: "Cinematic Ironies: *Native Son* as Literature and Film"
- Mr. Clifton Taulbert, Tulsa, Oklahoma: "Mississippi Literature as Anthropologist and Futurist"
- Dr. W. Kenneth Holditch, The University of New Orleans: "A Dark, Wide World That You Can Breathe In: William Faulkner, Tennessee Williams, and the Old South"
- Dr. David Sansing, The University of Mississippi, Oxford: "Two Centuries of Newspapers in Mississippi"
- Dr. Julius Eric Thompson, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale: "The Black Press in Mississippi, 1865-1985"
- Mr. Willie Morris, Jackson, Mississippi: "My Great-Grandfather: A 19th-century Mississippi Editor"
- Mr. Madison Davis Lacy, Jr., New York, New York: "The Making of *Black Boy*, a 1994 Mississippi Educational Television Documentary," with Excerpts from the Documentary
- Ms. Julia Wright, Paris, France: "Black Boy's Children"



**Other Celebration Events**

"An Evening with Richard Wright," starring the writer's daughter, Julia Wright, of Paris, France

Mississippi premiere of the play *Prince of the Slaves*

Tours of famous Natchez mansions

Tours of the Museum of the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture

A movie version of Richard Wright's novel, *Native Son*, starring Matt Dillon and Oprah Winfrey

The presentation of the first Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award to Eudora Welty

Exhibits, entertainments, meals, garden parties, and receptions

Book sale and book signing

Genealogy Workshop June 1 and Writing Workshop June 2

\$95 for full package • \$20 for lectures only • Other events from \$10

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The Fifth Annual  
**NATCHES LITERARY CELEBRATION**  
 Presents

**MISSISSIPPI'S  
 LITERARY  
 HERITAGE:  
 BLACK AND WHITE  
 AND READ  
 ALL OVER**



Celebrating Mississippi's Extraordinary  
 Multi-cultural Literary Heritage

June 2-4, 1994  
 Natchez, Mississippi

Sponsored by  
 Capital-Lenoir Community College,  
 Mississippi Department of Archives and History,  
 and The National Book Service

**Free Events . . . Related Events**  
 Co-sponsored with the Natchez Literary Celebration

- **Wednesday, June 2, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**, Pre-Conference Workshop "The Cultural Studies Database Project Continues," Dr. G. Douglas Light of Florida, Texas, Arkansas Libraries, 100 North Commerce sponsored by the History, Fine Arts and Museum and the Southern Historical Societies (HHSN pre-conference fee)
- **Thursday, June 3, 10:00 - 1:00 p.m.**, First issue of the celebration journal *Natchez*, a National Historic Landmark, Natchez Avenue
- **Thursday, June 3, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.**, Free tour of the Museum of the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Mississippi Culture, 201-A Natchez Street
- **Friday, June 3-4**, "Mississippi Writers," a photographic exhibit, *Mississippi Authors Exhibit*, open to the public. "Life and 19th Century Natchez Writers," a photographic exhibit from the Hammers Collection, *Natchez Manuscript Auctions* and "The Natchez Times" an exhibit for the Natchez Times Workshop, *Natchez Manuscript Auctions*, open to the public
- **Saturday, June 4, 10:00 a.m.**, Book sale and book signing, *Natchez Manuscript Auctions*, open to the public
- **Saturday, June 4, 7:00 p.m.**, "The Evening with Richard Wright" honoring the writer's daughter, Ms. Abby Wright, of Paris, France, and including the presentation of the first Richard Wright Literary Conference Award to Miss Barbara Wooty, *Natchez Manuscript Auctions*, open to the public
- **Sunday, June 5, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**, "The Making of a Writer: A Day with Seven Successful Mississippi Writers," a *Mississippi Writers Association* conference, featuring Ms. Elizabeth Searles, Ms. Mary Brantley, Ms. Bill Gaddy, Dr. Sam Donald, Mr. Greg Ray, Mr. Allen Howard Miller, and Dr. Jerry Ward, *The Natchez Daily Herald* 10:00-noon program for teachers and visiting students, free admission sessions, *Deadline to purchase tickets is 1:00 p.m., June 5*

**Special Participants • 1994 Natchez Literary Celebration**  
 Meet Outstanding Humanities Students and Faculty Members  
 in Mississippi's Public Two-year Colleges

**Capital Community College/Natchez**  
 Student: Andrew C. Pitt  
 Faculty: William B. Hunt

**Capital-Lenoir Community College/Natchez**  
 Student: Michael Todd Taylor  
 Faculty: Stephen B. Farmer

**Capital-Lenoir Community College/Wisconsin**  
 Student: Daniel Huff  
 Faculty: Carol Bueck

**East Central Community College/Oleander**  
 Student: Rhonda Brummon  
 Faculty: Virginia Hunt

**East Mississippi Community College/Natchez**  
 Faculty: Betty B. Alderson

**Hinds Community College/Burrend**  
 Student: David Ogden  
 Faculty: Patsy B. Marshall

**Holmes Community College/Gretna**  
 Student: Jo Ann Smith  
 Faculty: Rita Jones

**Holmes Community College/Gretna**  
 Student: Tanya Smith  
 Faculty: Mark Starnage

**Holmes Community College/Reliance**  
 Student: Peter Hunter  
 Faculty: James B. Bishop

**Memphis Community College/Palm**  
 Student: Nancy Armstrong

**Mississippi Delta Community College/Memphis**  
 Student: Patsy Rose  
 Faculty: Margaret C. Tate

**Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College**  
 Student: Susan Colquhoun  
 Faculty: David Hickey

**Panola Community College/Panola**  
 Student: Shelly L. Marshall  
 Faculty: Susan B. Starnage

**Southwest Mississippi Community College/Gretna**  
 Student: Marissa A. Lewis  
 Faculty: Dr. Edward McLean

**1994 Natchez Literary Celebration**

**Director of Proceedings**



Mr. William P. Wilson  
 President, Board of Trustees  
 Mississippi Department of  
 Archives and History  
 Jackson, Mississippi

**Official Endorser for the  
 Mississippi Humanities  
 Council**



Dr. Catherine Lee  
 President, Faculty  
 Department of English  
 State of Mississippi  
 Jackson, Mississippi

The 1994 Natchez Literary  
 Celebration is financially aided  
 by the National Endowment for the Humanities through  
 the Mississippi Humanities Council. Official endorser for the  
 Council is Dr. Catherine Lee/Harvey



Dr. Edw. S. Thomas  
 President  
 Capital-Lenoir Community College  
 Natchez, Mississippi



Mr. Thomas Thomas  
 President, Faculty  
 Capital-Lenoir Community College  
 Natchez, Mississippi

**Capital-Lenoir  
 Community  
 College Officials**

**Natchez Literary Celebration Co-Chairmen**



Mrs. Carolyn Vance Hunt  
 Assistant Vice President  
 Director, Public Relations  
 Capital-Lenoir Community College  
 Natchez, Mississippi



Mr. James E. Smith  
 Chairman, Faculty  
 Natchez Literary Celebration  
 Natchez, Mississippi



Mr. James E. Smith, Jr.  
 President, Faculty  
 Natchez Literary Celebration  
 Natchez, Mississippi

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THE HONORABLE LARRY "BUTCH" BROWN  
WELCOMES NLC PARTICIPANTS.



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DR. BILL THAMES, PRESIDENT OF CO-LIN  
INTRODUCES 1994 CO-CHAIRMAN, CAROLYN  
VANCE SMITH, GERALD GAUMER, & JAMES  
BARNETT.



THE HONORABLE THAD COCHRAN EXTENDS A  
MISSISSIPPI WELCOME TO NLC PARTICIPANTS.



THE AUDIENCE AWAITS  
THE NEXT SPEAKER.



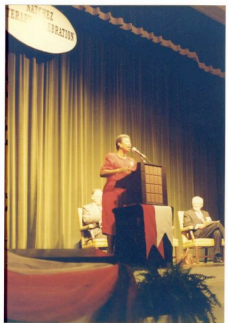
DR. CHARLES REAGAN WILSON SPEAKS AS GOV.  
WILLIAM WINTER & DR. ALFERDTEEN HARRISON  
LISTEN ATTENTIVELY.

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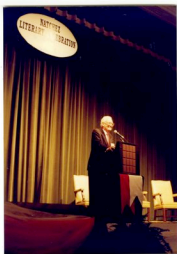


DR. JOHN GUICE INTRODUCES DR. DOUG INGLIS ON JUNE 2.



THE HONORABLE MARY L. TOLES & GOV. WINTER INTRODUCE DR. REMINI,

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DR. ROBERT REMINI TALKS ABOUT AARON BURR.



DR. DAVIS DISCUSSES, "THE BLACK EXPERIENCE IN NATCHEZ, 1720-1880."



DR. RONALD DAVIS IS INTRODUCED BY ROBERT DODSON.

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THE "SILVER EAGLE" TRANSPORTS VIP'S TO LIZA'S FOR A FABULOUS LUNCH ON THURSDAY, JUNE 2.



LIZA'S SIMPLE BUT ELEGANT DECOR IS THE PERFECT SETTING FOR A LEISURELY LUNCHEON.



# 1994 Natchez Literary Celebration

*"Mississippi's Literary Heritage:  
Black and White and Read All Over"*

**"PRINCE OF THE SLAVES," A PLAY  
WITH TOUR AND GARDEN PARTY  
MELROSE**

**6:30 p.m., THURSDAY, JUNE 2**



**IBRAHIMA & THOMAS  
FOSTER IN THE EARLY  
YEARS.**

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RICHARD PAWLING AS THOMAS POSTER



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WILLIAM GWALTNEY AS IBRAHIMA

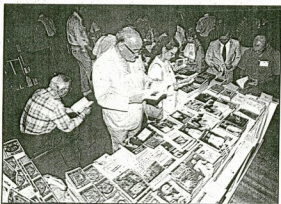
THE PRINCE AND HIS MASTER



THOMAS FOSTER IN HIS  
LATER YEARS



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The Natchez Democrat/David Sundy

**BOOK LOOKERS:** During a break at the 1994 Natchez Literary Celebration Thursday at the City Auditorium, a crowd gathers around a table to examine and purchase books relating to Mississippi's literary heritage.

Continued from Page 1A

here before them," he said.

Davis and a team of graduate students researched blacks of that era for the National Park Service. Davis said it was difficult to find sources about black lives, because few kept diaries or wrote letters.

However, African Americans were a significant presence in Adams County. "In the Natchez area, there were 14,292 blacks and 5,618 whites," he said, compared to 1,275 whites and 675 blacks in 1787. "The district was overwhelmingly black."

Smith said the hospitality of the Natchez community makes the festival special. "It's a team effort," she said. "We invite Natchez area book and history lovers to join us for the rest of the weekend."

Three events are open to the public free of charge. Tonight at 7:30 p.m. a discussion and viewing of "Native Son," a film based on the book by Adams County native Richard Wright, will be held. Saturday at noon, the festival's lecturers will sign their books. Saturday evening at 7 p.m. an "Evening with

## Book-lovers enter 'hog heaven' at fest

■ See schedule page 3A  
By MICHAELA GIBSON  
The Natchez Democrat

The Fifth Annual Natchez Literary Festival began with a bang Thursday.

"We're off to a wonderful start," said Co-Chair Carolyn Vance Smith. "We have an exceptional crowd and superior speakers."

The focus of this year's festival, "Mississippi's Literary Heritage: Black and White and Read All Over," salutes the state's diverse literary history. Speakers and events will focus on the contributions of black and white writers.

Those attending the Literary Festival were also enthusiastic about the speakers and the planned events. "I'm in hog heaven," said Corning Fox Lucas, a creative writing graduate student at Emory University in Atlanta. "I'm worshipping at the feet of Mississippi writers. Hopefully, a little will rub

off."

Other attendees basked in the warmth of Natchez hospitality. "I'm very much impressed," said Grady McWhiney, a professor of history at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. Natchez has lived up to its reputation for hospitality and graciousness, McWhiney said. "The conference exemplifies all of these."

Today, McWhiney will speak on Jefferson Davis, appropriately enough on Davis' birthday. Birthday cake will be served following his lecture, "A Mississippian Defends a Nation: Jefferson Davis as Confederate President, 1862."

One of Thursday's speakers, Ronald L.F. Davis, a professor of black history at California State University at Northridge, discussed black life in Natchez between 1720 and the Civil War. "Only Native Americans were

See HEAVEN, Page 3A

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## Literary Celebration plans events

Here is a look at Friday's highlights for the Natchez Literary Celebration. Events will be held at the Natchez City Auditorium, unless otherwise specified:

**9 a.m.:** "A Mississippian Defends a Nation: Jefferson Davis as a Confederate President, 1862" by Grady McWhitney, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth.

**10:30 a.m.:** "War, Race and Social Change. Two Perspectives on the Fiction of Stark Young," by Robert C. Peterson and Jacqueline Jackson of Middle Tennessee State University.

**1 p.m.:** "The Fourth Estate: Newspapers as Social Chronicles." Speakers include Willie

Morris of Jackson.

**3 p.m.:** "Good Food, Good Folks and Good Times: The Role of Southern Foods in Southern Culture," Patricia B. Mitchell.

**3:45 p.m.:** "Kingston and Second Creek: Country Communities," Elizabeth MacNeil Boggess of Natchez.

**4:15-7:15 p.m.:** Tours of Woodstock, Cherry Grove and Hillside plantations with refreshments at Woodstock and dinner on the grounds of Kingston United Methodist Church.

**7:30 p.m.:** "Let's Go to the Movies: Richard Wright's 'Native Son'" (free to the public).



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DR. GRADY MCWHINEY HELPS US  
CELEBRATE JEFFERSON DAVIS'  
BIRTHDAY ON JUNE 3.

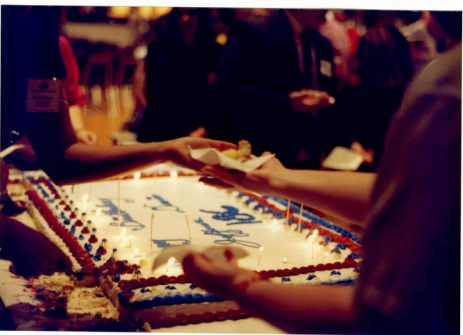


NO, WE DID NOT PUT ALL  
186 CANDLES ON THE CAKE!

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RIVERBEND CATERING  
DONATED THIS GREAT CAKE!



DR. & MRS. MCWHINEY ENJOY  
A PIECE OF JEFF'S CAKE!



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SUSAN BUTLER LEWIS INTRODUCES  
DR. JACQUELYN JACKSON &  
DR. ROBERT PETERSEN ON JUNE 3.

"WAR, RACE, AND SOCIAL CHANGE:  
TWO PERSPECTIVES ON THE FICTION  
OF STARK YOUNG"

